

WHY HUNTING SHOULD NOT BE BANNED
Save the country way of life, says Clive Aslet

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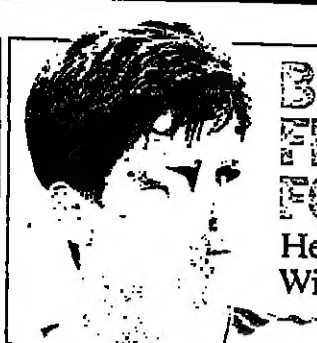
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Libby Purves educates the Prince

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The winners heading to the Junior Prom

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BRITAIN'S FIRST SEED FOR 15 YEARS
Henman bids for the Wimbledon men's title

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'Nothing prepared me for what I saw', says doctor who ran to RUC men shot in cold blood

Ulster talks off after double killing

By Nicholas Watt, Philip Webster and Audrey Magee

THE Government severed all contacts with Sinn Féin last night after the IRA murdered two policemen in cold blood in the centre of Lurgan, Co Armagh.

Constable John Graham and Constable David Johnson died instantly when they were shot in the back of the head while on the beat near the town's RUC station.

A doctor who was on the scene within seconds said that there was nothing he could do to save the two men slumped on the ground 30 yards from his surgery.

Dr John McMillen said: "Nothing prepared me for what I saw. I can't believe anyone could do this sort of thing to a fellow human being."

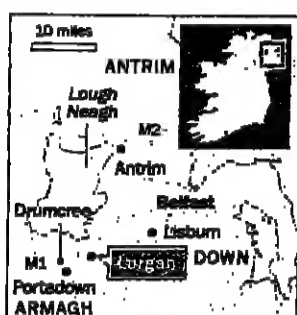
Constable Graham, 34, was married with three daughters aged ten, seven and two; and Constable Johnson, 30, a full-time member of the RUC Reserve, was married with two sons aged seven and three.

Both held the force's Service Medal.

They were ambushed as they walked past a parochial hall in Church Walk, just off Lurgan's main street, at 11.53 am. The gunmen, who were thought to be wearing women's wigs, fired up to six shots at close range and then ran off to a getaway car which was later found burnt out on a nationalist housing estate.

Within two hours, the IRA's North Armagh brigade had admitted that it was responsible for the first RUC murders since the 1994 ceasefire.

The Prime Minister was



ist, who described the killings as coldly calculated murder which had been deliberately timed to cause maximum tension just before the height of the Protestant marching season.

Mr Bruton said the location of the double murder — near to the site of contentious parades — was chosen to cause maximum sectarian strife. The attempt has clearly been made by the Republican movement to generate sectarian animosity and they seek by this murder to engender further sectarian bitterness.

The RUC Chief Constable, Ronnie Flanagan, agreed. He said: "No twisted logic can justify such acts. No words can put a gloss on cold-blooded murder and no cause can be furthered by violence which is not only abhorrent in itself, but carried out in circumstances which can only further inflame an already tense and volatile situation — and which is designed to do just that."

Gerry Adams, the Sinn Féin President, was signing copies of his autobiography in a Belfast bookshop when he was told about the shootings. Remaining seated, he looked straight ahead and nodded before saying: "At a personal and at a human level I am shocked. I think that any death in this situation diminishes all of us. These deaths must act as a huge incentive on those of us in political leadership to redouble our

efforts to get the peace process restored."

Michel McLaughlin, Sinn Féin's national chairman, chose the same form of words, saying he was "personally shocked" by the killings, "which diminish us all."

But Sinn Féin's response was dismissed as "weasel words" by Mr Blair and Mr Bruton, who said that the party should come straight out and condemn the killings. Mr Bruton said: "I am appalled by



Blankets cover the bodies of the two RUC men who were shot in the head in Lurgan, Co Armagh, by IRA gunmen wearing women's wigs

efforts to get the peace process restored."

Mr Blair agreed, adding: "I would like to see Mr Adams face up to the responsibility of condemning it outright, no hesitation, no weasel words."

And asked if there could be any contact with Sinn Féin, he said: "There can be no question of talking in these circumstances."

There are now fears that loyalist paramilitaries will end their ceasefire. Gary McMichael, leader of the Ulster Democratic Party — political

wing of the terrorist Ulster Defence Association, said the shootings had created a dire situation: "I hope we will see restraint after this deliberate provocation. But each of these terrible tragedies makes it most difficult." His colleague, David Adams, said: "The future looks dark. We have to face the reality this may well push the loyalists to the brink."

But the Ulster Unionist leader David Trimble urged

the loyalist paramilitaries: "Don't play the IRA's game."

He said: "This was a dastardly crime committed by members of the IRA sneaking up behind policemen on the beat who were serving the entire community. What has happened underlines the character of Sinn Féin/IRA and the nature of the beast we are dealing with. There must surely be an end to wishful thinking."

Tactical switch, page 2

Final protester is evicted at airport

The last protester occupying Manchester Airport's proposed second runway was evicted after a tunnel collapsed, trapping him and a sheriff's officer for five hours.

The five-month security operation, during which 210 protesters have been arrested, is estimated to have cost the airport and contractors about £4 million.

Page 2

£1,000 windfall for shareholders

Around 18 million policyholders at Norwich Union became at least £1,000 richer as the latest demutualisation bonanza hit the high street. Norwich shares first traded at 350p before falling to 324½p, which is still 34½p higher than the expected initial price of 290p.

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Euro rolled out after pact satisfies French honour

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER AND CHARLES BREMNER IN AMSTERDAM

EUROPEAN leaders last night launched the new single currency coins after France and Germany papered over their differences.

A classic European Union compromise at the summit here led to France giving way to Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, and Tony Blair and dropping its objections to the rigid budgetary rules that will govern monetary union through a stability pact.

In return, President Chirac and Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, won the explicit agreement of the EU to put the creation of jobs at the top of its agenda through a new "jobs and growth pact" that will stand alongside the stability pact. Under the deal Germany and Britain were



The euro for your pocket from 2002

able to claim that no new European funds would go into job creation projects.

The European Commission, delighted that the latest setback to its cherished dream of a single currency had been overcome, swiftly staged a news conference to display the single currency coins that, under present plans, would become legal tender in 2002.

The Queen's head survives on the front of the coin that would be minted and circulated in Britain, if it signed up, and there is a map of Europe — with Britain at its heart — on the back.

Raising the importance of jobs in EU affairs was one of a series of diplomatic victories that the Prime Minister seemed likely to be able to hail last night at his first negotiating summit.

An agreement to give him the cast-iron guarantees that he had sought that Britain would keep its own frontier controls, immigration and visa rules was all but sealed late last night. A separate protocol is to be written into the new treaty which Mr Blair believes will ensure that Britain

Continued on page 2, col 7

Row buried, page 14

Anatole Kaletsky, page 22

Hague poised for second-round win

By Andrew Pierce and Philip Webster

WILLIAM HAGUE powered ahead in the Tory leadership contest yesterday, gaining the support of Gillian Shepherd and with enough declared votes to go into Thursday's third round.

Mrs Shepherd, the former Education Secretary, joined Michael Howard and Peter Lilley in backing the former Welsh Secretary. With at least 20 MPs yet to declare, the battle for the 47 votes of the Lilley and Howard campaigns continued until late last night.

Mr Hague's total of public declarations is 56 — one above the minimum required to go into Thursday's final ballot. Supporters of Kenneth Clarke privately conceded that Mr Hague had moved decisively ahead. The John Redwood team said it was catching up and would fight Mr Hague in the final round. As the three

teams completed their final calculations last night, Mr Hague was expected to finish first with Mr Redwood closing the gap on Mr Clarke.

At a meeting of 120 Tory MPs, Mr Hague infuriated Mr Clarke's supporters when he reiterated that only MPs prepared to back his opposition to a single currency would join his Shadow Cabinet. "This is my party. Follow me," he told the meeting.

Mr Redwood, who many observers said was the most polished performer, refused to exclude heavyweights such as Mr Clarke.

In a carefully timed intervention, the Labour Party said that a Hague victory would lead to the defection of at least ten pro-Europe Tories.

Leading Article and Letters, page 23

Physicists find grain of truth in child's play

By a Staff Reporter

THE mystery of why wet sand makes better, longer-lasting sandcastles has been solved.

Schoolchildren have always known that soggy sand makes tougher turrets and battlements. But the physics of the effect and why, when the sun has dried out a sandcastle, it still stands has remained a mystery until now.

The findings have come from researchers at the University of Notre

Dame, Indiana, who have created their own beach made out of polystyrene beads the size of grains of sand to observe what they call the "wet sandcastle effect".

The team, led by Dr Peter Schiffer, has discovered that tiny but powerful "water bridges" are formed between grains of wet sand. The bridges stick the grains together in clumps, creating an effect similar to when mortar is used to stick bricks together. Dr Schiffer, whose team's findings are

published in *Nature* later this week, said yesterday that the water bridges used surface tension to bind the granules together.

The scientists have also found that the amount of water needed is far less than might be expected — more than 90 per cent of the water coating the sand is actually redundant. Dr Schiffer said this was because grains are not perfectly spherical or smooth. Less than 1 per cent of water on the grains' surfaces is actually used in

building granule-binding bridges. And they will remain, even when the sun dries the rest of the sand out, the scientists have found.

Dr Schiffer, who declined to comment on how much the research was costing, said unravelling the properties of coated granules was not just for fun. It is believed that the basic physics could revolutionise thinking on the structural strength of medicinal tablets or the concrete used in bridges and buildings.

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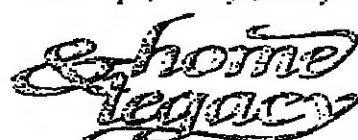
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Clark sleeps through divine thunder and saintly sermon

AN ENORMOUS clap of thunder yesterday heralded the arrival for Questions of Stuart Bell, the new Member representing the Church Commissioners. MPs glanced heavenwards. The high windows above the chamber rattled. A scared Mr Bell (Lab, Middlesbrough) scuttled in, looking equally rattled.

Nobody was sure whether the dramatic electric storm rumbling around the Palace of Westminster signalled divine displeasure at the appointment, or was designed to

impress newly elected Hon Members with the importance of the Almighty attaches to the Church Commission's monthly five minutes' grilling by MPs.

But the thunderclap failed to rouse Alan Clark (C, Kensington and Chelsea), Chin on chest. Mr Clark had been sunk in what was presumably deep thought for most of the Questions to Defence Ministers that preceded those to Church Commissioners.

His eyes were shut, his head had dropped forward and one

hand spread across his famously chiselled jaw, covering his mouth. Mr Clark looked profoundly at peace.

Even the mention of Clark's new constituency's name failed to jolt him from his meditations. The sure-footed Defence Secretary, George Robertson, defending the Government's defence review, said the idea had been endorsed by voices as diverse as that of CND and of "the Hon Member for Kensington and Chelsea".

All eyes moved to Mr Clark



but his own remained at rest, head sunk — if anything — deeper on to his chest. A colleague beside him turned to gauge his reaction, noted the Zen-like calm, and looked hastily away.

Mr Clark's serenity had remained unshaken even by an intervention from Martin Bell (Independent, Tanton).

ed to cut the British Army's commitments in Bosnia, but rather that he wanted reinforcements to personnel.

A chap who had entered Parliament on a progressive ticket, crusading to clean up Tory corruption, now found himself adopting the tone of a retired major writing to *The Daily Telegraph* about the overstretched Hussars.

Earlier, Mr Clark had seemed momentarily distracted from his reveries by a loud anonymous yelp from a fellow-backbencher. Dari Taylor

(Lab, Stockton S), glancing at some notes and displaying a sudden detailed knowledge of the JP 233 airfield denial weapon, had asked the Defence Secretary whether he had anything to say about its possible inclusion in the ban on landmines. By a strange coincidence, Mr Robertson had some remarks prepared on this very subject, and advised Mr Taylor, who was agog, that the JP 233 was to be banned.

"Not" yelped an unseen Tory, shocked. It is encourag-

ing to realise that, though our principal Opposition may be teased by a few peripheral uncertainties on sidesteps like the European monetary system, the British constitution and the future of the welfare state, Tories are rock solid on the things that matter to the generation they must win over: assisted places, the defence of fox-hunting and the manufacture of landmines.

I suspect that, were we only to be granted access to Alan Clark's rich interior life, we should find he disagrees.

Manchester protest ends after tunnel collapses

By STEPHEN FARRELL

THE last protester occupying Manchester airport's proposed second runway was evicted yesterday after a tunnel collapsed, trapping him and a sheriff's officer underground for five hours.

Matt Benson, 23, was brought to the surface at 4pm on his eighteenth day inside the "cakehole" tunnel at the Flywood Babylon Council Estate camp near Sneyd in Cheshire.

His plan to emerge voluntarily in the morning was overtaken when a six-foot section of side wall collapsed fifteen feet inside the tunnel entrance at 11am, leaving in an area shored by the professional tunnellers, known as Men in Black.

The sheriff's officer was struck by a falling plank and fire crews and ambulances were called. Rescuers later said the pair were not in immediate danger but had to lie side by side within the dank, narrow passage with air pumped through while four other sheriff's officers worked to free them.

Randal Hibbert, the Under Sheriff of Cheshire, said the collapse, caused by water penetrating the heavy Cheshire clay, was the most serious incident in 28 days since he began evicting 100 protesters occupying the £172 million development site.

He denied protesters' claims

that his men were responsible or trying to stage-manage the final day. "I have said before that if the protesters continued to occupy trees and tunnels it was only a question of time before some incident occurred," he said.

"It is very fortunate indeed that today's incident was not more serious. They place not only their own lives in danger but also those of the rescuers and I hope a lesson has been learnt."

Mr Benson, an articulate middle-class former NHS drugs auditor from Oldham, is a veteran of the M66, Newbury, and Fairmile protests. One of the first activists to arrive on the Manchester site in January, he was among the most expert tunnellers in the six camps and was nicknamed Logic and Posh Podge.

Looking dazed when he emerged at 4pm, he was given a medical examination before being led to a police van, supported by a policeman and sheriff's officer, and taken to Wilmslow police station.

The five-month security operation, during which 210 protesters have been arrested, is estimated to have cost the airport and contractors AMEC and Tarmac about £4 million.

Mr Hibbert yesterday refused to disclose his budget but confirmed that Mr Benson and his fellow-tunnellers



Through the cakehole: Matt Benson is led away after 17 nights beneath the Manchester airport development

Muppet Dave, Denise and Neville had beaten the seven-day record set at Fairmile by Daniel Hooper, the underground protester known as Swampy.

He admitted that the cakehole was an "engineering feat" that held out three to four days longer than expected. "No-one has ever seen anything like it before — the complexity of it, the engineer-

ing of it, ten doors, mostly steel, set in hard concrete. It is quite different from anything before."

He insisted that the contractors had not incurred penalties for delaying the work and would move onto the site the week after next.

Jeff Gazzard, a spokesman for the protesters, said he was concerned to learn of the collapse. "One might raise an

eyebrow. I'm not a great believer in conspiracy theories but I'm not surprised to see the potential for a massive rescue operation on the last day of the siege," he said.

He said the campaign against the second runway would continue and other protests were inevitable. "We represent the radicalisation of protest," he said.

"We have gone through the

stages of charting to neighbours over the garden fence, going to public meetings and the iniquitous one-sided farce of the 101-day public inquiry."

"Now we are bringing together the young, the idealistic and the committed. If we haven't stopped the development we have, in my view, made it the last runway to be built on mainland Britain," he said.

Switch in tactics that culminated in a cold-blooded double murder

By NICHOLAS WATT, CHIEF IRELAND CORRESPONDENT, AND RICHARD FORD

THE murder of two RUC officers in Lurgan yesterday marks a serious escalation by the IRA, which has been switching tactics in the 16 months since the end of its ceasefire.

The terrorists initially concentrated their violence on mainland Britain, with the massive Docklands bombing in February 1996, which heralded the end of the ceasefire, and the devastating bomb in Manchester a year ago.

Hopes that IRA terrorism would not return to Northern Ireland were dashed last October when the IRA carried out a double car-bomb attack at the Army's Northern Ireland headquarters on the outskirts of Lisburn, Co Antrim. The Ulster Volunteer Force and the

Ulster Defence Association refrained from resuming their campaigns because the IRA had attacked a specifically British target, not loyalists or RUC officers.

But after two gunmen walked into the Royal Belfast Children's Hospital on the Falls Road and shot two policemen who were guarding a Unionist politician, loyalists responded by planting a small bomb under the car of a republican in Belfast. The bomb was the first of a series of attacks by the UDA and UVF which were not declared by the terrorist organisations.

The IRA renewed their campaign after the customary Christmas truce. On New Year's Eve a wedding reception at Belfast Castle had to be

abandoned after the IRA left a 1,000lb bomb in the grounds of the castle.

On January 6, a police officer suffered minor injuries when IRA terrorists fired an improvised grenade at a security post outside Belfast High Court. The IRA then launched a series of attacks on RUC and Army patrols in which no member of the security forces was killed.

In February the terrorists demonstrated their deadly intent when a sniper murdered Lance Bombardier Stephen Restorick in Co Armagh. The spring saw a series of bomb hoaxes on the mainland designed to disrupt the general election.

On April 10, Constable Alice Collins, a 46, was shot in the

back by an IRA sniper in Londonderry. The terrorists then observed a tactical suspension of their campaign in the run-up to the general and local elections to improve Sinn Féin's vote. The tactic paid off.

The terrorists who yesterday killed two police officers by shooting them in the head at close range used a method as old as the Irish republican movement itself. It involves the terrorist stalking their victim, walking up from behind and then firing at point-blank range into the victim's head. Friends of Sinn Féin, the republican fund-raising organisation in the United States, raised \$216,000 (about £130,000) in the past six months, a third more than in the previous half year.

Reid brings back Gulf War doctor

By MICHAEL EVANS, DEFENCE CORRESPONDENT

THE Army doctor assessing more than a thousand Gulf War veterans suffering from a range of illnesses has resigned after being subjected to complaints from some of the ex-servicemen.

Lieutenant Colonel Banu Bhatt had taken over from Wing Commander Bill Coker, who was promoted to group captain and posted to America. Veterans claiming to be victims of Gulf War syndrome were upset because they felt Group Captain Coker was sympathetic to their cause. He had expressed concern about the possible effects of organophosphate pesticides on Gulf troops before their widespread use was admitted by the previous Government.

Yesterday John Reid, the

Armed Forces Minister, announced that he had asked Group Captain Coker to return part-time to deal with the veterans. Lieutenant Colonel Bhatt has been allowed to leave his post immediately. A total of 1,305 ex-servicemen have been assessed and 337 are waiting.

Group Captain Coker will continue in his post in the United States but will return regularly to Britain as part of a new MoD advisory group which will help Dr Reid in overseeing the ministry's response to veterans' concerns.

Major Ian Hill, chairman of the National Gulf Veterans and Families Association, said: "I am delighted at the decision to bring Group Captain Coker back."

Surgery for Siamese twins

The Siamese twins born in Manchester in April are to be separated by Professor Lewis Spitz, the country's most experienced surgeon in this sphere. The girls, who are joined at the abdomen and share a liver, have been transferred to Great Ormond Street Hospital for Sick Children, in central London, in preparation for the operation this week. Professor Spitz and his surgeon Edward Kieley have carried out separations in six cases in the past 13 years.

War hero to sell medals

Brigadier Michael Calvert, 84, a former Chindit hero and SAS commander, is to sell his medals, which include his DSO and Bar, to help to meet his medical bills. Military historians say the collection does scant justice to his extraordinary courage in a career that spanned five decades. The brigadier, who still glories in his nickname of "Mad Mike", insists the collection must not be broken up. It is expected to fetch up to £15,000 at Spink and Son on July 17.

Euro rift is settled

Continued from page 1
ain's controls are safe from challenge in the European Court of Justice. Mr Blair succeeded in removing from the treaty references to Britain keeping border controls "necessary for the purpose" of monitoring immigration.

The wording has been changed to say that border controls are retained "as the

United Kingdom may consider necessary".

Today a new agreement tackling the problem of fish quota-hopping is expected to be announced, although it is likely to fall short of what British fishermen have been demanding.

Summit relief, page 14
Anastole Kaletsky, page 22

play tested to a velocity of 63.24m/s

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ACCEPT NO LIMITS

Campbell rejects reports of a suicide attempt, saying she suffered an allergic reaction to penicillin

Model denies taking overdose after row

FROM ADAM SAGE IN PARIS AND JOANNA BALE IN LAS PALMAS

NAOMI CAMPBELL shrugged off reports of a suicide attempt yesterday as she appeared smiling at a Paris photographic studio.

The model, who was admitted to hospital in the Canary Islands on Saturday, said that she had suffered an allergic reaction after taking penicillin for a chest cold she had caught in New York.

Reports from Spain that she had taken an overdose of barbiturates after a row with Joaquin Cortés, her boyfriend, were "a load of rubbish", she said. Miss Campbell, 27, who appeared fit and well, said: "I am very much alive, as you can see."

She added that she was worried about the effect that the reports of a suicide attempt would have on her elderly grandmother and her young brother, who had to put up with teasing about her at his school.

Friends said that Miss Campbell had been laughing and happy since her arrival aboard a private aircraft at Le Bourget airport early yesterday. They said that she worked on an advertising shoot in Paris promoting her own brand of jeans in the afternoon. "She's much better," said a source at the Daylight studio where the photo-shoot took place.

Miss Campbell left the Ca-



Naomi Campbell and Joaquin Cortés together at a party during London Fashion Week in February

nary Islands on Sunday after spending a week at a five-star hotel with Señor Cortés. The couple were reported to have stayed in separate bedrooms. A Spanish magazine published photographs of Señor Cortés on the beach with another woman, and said Miss Campbell had been distressed by its pictures.

Yesterday, the model dismissed suggestions that she had split up from her boyfriend, saying: "Everything is fine between us. You have to put up with this sort of thing when you're well known."

Two Spanish ambulance men who took Miss Campbell to hospital said they arrived at

the hotel to find her conscious and sitting up in bed with Señor Cortés and the hotel doctor at her bedside. Francisco Taboas and Victor Ramirez, the paramedics, said that the model had complained of stomach pains and feeling generally unwell after "taking something" but did not want to go to hospital.

Señor Ramirez, an ambulance man at the Nuestra Señora del Pino hospital in Las Palmas, Grand Canary, was called to the Hotel Santa Catalina at 4am on Sunday. He said: "Her boyfriend told us that they had been out and had supper and a few drinks and that it could have been

that that upset her." Señor Ramirez took her blood pressure and temperature, which were normal. Señor Taboas said: "She said she wanted to stay at the hotel, but Señor Cortés and the doctor were saying she should go to hospital. It was a fairly relaxed atmosphere and everyone was chatting quite calmly. I suppose the doctor was being careful because of who she is."

Miss Campbell was admitted to the hospital's intensive care unit where, according to Spanish newspapers, she had her stomach pumped.

El País, one of Spain's leading national newspapers, yesterday stood by its story that she had taken an overdose of Valium after a "furious row" with Señor Cortés. The newspaper quoted an unnamed pilot from the Spanish airline Iberia who had been staying at the hotel and said that he heard a "bitter row" near the couple's rooms. According to the newspaper, Miss Campbell during the row threatened to commit suicide. It also quoted "medical sources" confirming that Miss Campbell had taken an overdose of Valium.

Señor Cortés was last night expected to perform the last of three dance shows called Gypsy Passion in Las Palmas. He has declined to comment on the incident.



Naomi Campbell in Paris yesterday. She worked on an advertisement for her own brand of jeans

Parents say doctors hid truth about dead son

BY MICHAEL HORSNELL

FIVE doctors anxious to protect their reputations fraudulently covered up their negligent treatment of a ten-year-old boy, whose death could have been prevented, the Court of Appeal was told yesterday.

Robert Powell died in hospital in 1990 of Addison's disease, a rare but treatable condition affecting the adrenal glands. His parents, William and Diane Powell, claim the five GPs were guilty of a conspiracy to hide the truth from them: that with the right treatment he could still be alive today.

Four months before his death he had become seriously ill and was admitted to hospital, where the disease was suspected and further tests planned but not carried out.

The hospital informed the boy's GPs of the adrenal problems and discharged him to their care, saying that if there were a recurrence of the illness they should refer him back to the hospital.

Robert became ill again 16 days before his death but despite knowing of his condition the doctors did not refer him back to the hospital until hours before he died, even though five of them saw him on seven separate occasions in that time, the court was told.



Robert Powell: he died from a rare disease

Mr Powell, 43, a motor mechanic from Ystradgynlais, South Wales, who is unable to work because of the trauma he suffered, and his wife, 41, are challenging a High Court judge's ruling in Cardiff that, even if the cover-up allegations were true, doctors were under no legal obligation or duty of care to tell parents the truth about a child's death.

The five accused doctors, from a health centre at Ystradgynlais, Keith Hughes, Elwyn Hughes, Paul Boladz, Michael Williams and Nicola Flower, denied wrongdoing.

Michael Powers, QC, counsel for the parents and himself

a doctor, told the court that the GPs were accused of altering medical notes, removing documents from Robert's file and replacing them with fabricated ones in an attempt to "minimise their liability" for his death.

For six years the couple have been fighting to discover the facts surrounding their son's death. Their case is regarded as a test of a family's rights to be told the truth after the death of a loved one.

Dr Powers said the "pathological grief reactions" from which both parents still suffer were a direct result of the GPs' "dishonest actions taken to preserve their professional reputations".

Mrs Powell suffers panic attacks at the thought of her son's death and has witnessed her husband's decline from a well-adjusted family man to an obsessed, anxious and depressed shadow of his former self, the court was told.

The doctors, he said, had been guilty of a "grave breach of trust", greatly compounding the parents' grief. Dr Powers quoted from Mr Powell's statement to a psychiatrist: "All I wanted was truth and honesty. We took our son to people we trusted and they've called us liars. I think they should be struck off."

Mr and Mrs Powell complained after their son's death to the local family practitioner committee, where four of the GPs were cleared of failing to render appropriate medical services and one was reprimanded. It was during this process that it became apparent to the parents that some of Robert's records had been substituted with forgeries.

Mr and Mrs Powell brought a civil action against both the hospital and the doctors, claiming not only damages arising out of Robert's death but also for the psychiatric damage caused to them.

The appeal continues.



William and Diane Powell, who have suffered severe reactions to the loss of their son

Students pelt tourists who disturbed their revision

BY JOHN O'LEARY, EDUCATION EDITOR

STUDENTS at a Cambridge college have been threatened with expulsion after they pelted tourists in an open-topped bus with tomatoes when their revision was disturbed.

The increased popularity of Cambridge as a tourist destination has been a source of extra tension in the city since the onset of examinations. Rowdy parties in punts have already attracted the ire of academics concerned for their students' concentration.

Undergraduates at Sidney Sussex College decided to take matters into their own hands when the bus, with booming commentary, stopped outside their rooms. The Japanese tourists were bon-barded with vegetables from

the college's first-year accommodation. It ended in a complaint from the bus company and a terse notice informing the perpetrators that their behaviour was unacceptable and that they could be sent down if it was repeated.

Dr Mark Hennings, an admissions tutor, said: "I take serious notice of vandalism which brings the college into disrepute. I warned them that if the matter continued then I would call in the dean to investigate, and he has powers to recommend expulsion."

Dr Hennings said the college had received no complaints from students about the noise from tour buses, but he acknowledged that it was a problem during the revision

period. Cambridge now attracts more than three million visitors a year, many of whom take guided tours around the colleges. They bring millions of pounds into the Cambridge economy, with the university being a prime attraction. However, the conflicting demands of tourism and academic life represents a perennial problem.

Roger Coey, chief environmental health officer of Cambridge City Council, said that tour companies were encouraged to use headphones, rather than microphones, to keep their customers informed. "There is a potential for there to be a problem, so I can understand this incident occurring."

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دولت اسلامی

Call for low prices at the people's opera

By DALYA ALBERGE, ARTS CORRESPONDENT

THE Heritage Secretary wants to force the Royal Opera House to become the "people's opera" by widening the range of cheaper tickets and increasing the number of broadcast performances.

Chris Smith feels that the £78 million lottery grant earmarked for the company should only be awarded on condition that access for ordinary people is improved markedly. "It must not simply be an exclusive place that only the toffs go to," he said.

In an interview with *The Times*, he called for cheaper tickets for all performances, even those featuring superstars such as Luciano Pavarotti — when a single seat can cost £275. He also seeks an increase in the number of television broadcasts in the number of relays to spectators in the Covent Garden Piazza.

The house was "in receipt of very substantial public funds, both from the lottery and the Arts Council for their general running expenses", he said. "In return for that, we wish to see improved access."

Acknowledging that there were complications over television broadcasts of performances involving special rates, he said: "It is something other institutions in Britain have got round. Glyndebourne broadcasts quite a number of productions. It can't be beyond the wit of human-kind to sort out decent agreements with performers and technicians."

Broadcasts into the piazza "on a warm summer evening are a very good way of spreading the access of fine performances". Asked what might happen if the house did not meet his requirements, the Heritage Secretary said: "I won't contemplate failure at this stage."

He noted that the house had committed itself to improving access when it had submitted its application for lottery funding. That was one of his reasons for asking the Arts Council last week to conduct an external inquiry: "I'm anxious to hold them to those promises. It's top of my priorities. Their argument is that to attract international stars and

put on big productions, they need to shell out far more than modest houses do. My view is — if you want to charge £250 a seat to the corporate people in the stalls, make sure there is real access elsewhere."

He noted that a powerful performance did not necessarily require household names. "It's the quality that matters more than the name. Yes, it's good to get Pavarotti from time to time ... You need to balance names and quality and manage within a budget."

He added: "I suspect there are tensions within the organisation. There are some at the house who want to move in that direction and others who are resisting the idea. I want to get to the bottom of the conflicting interests ... I don't think that they've addressed this seriously enough."

Although the opera house long ago specified that £2.5 million from the lottery grant would be used to cover redundancies during the closure period, the subject would be explored by the inquiry. Mr Smith is "uncomfortable" about the lottery covering such payments, though he acknowledged that the full complement of staff would not be required for the 28 months that the Covent Garden house is closed.

At the house, Keith Cooper, a spokesman, said that they were "absolutely committed to

increasing access" but it was more complicated than anyone would imagine. Broadcasts into the piazza required the agreement of Westminster council and local traders: "It's not something we can automatically do as and when we chose." Safety issues were involved, he added, and they had to negotiate new rates with the unions. "There is an enormous willingness to try and address the issue."

He emphasised that a wide range of cheaper tickets were already available. Pavarotti appearances were "always going to be a premium event, just as Barbra Streisand is a premium event." He added: "We are earnestly engaged in looking at how we can make more lower-price seats available at each of our productions."



The Antarctic field camp where Sir Peter Maxwell Davies will spend a month in search of inspiration

Composer seeks sound of silence

By DALYA ALBERGE

SIR Peter Maxwell Davies will be composing his next symphony in Antarctica. Inspiration, he hopes, will come from "an absolute silence" quite unlike anything he has experienced, even around his remote croft in the Orkney Islands.

Sir Peter, 62, a passionate environmentalist, will be spending a month there, suffering for art's sake in temperatures that could dip to -20C. Home will be a tent, shared with scientists from the British Antarctic Survey.

He said that the experience would be "a great luxury. I hope the music that comes out of it will justify it." He plans to write a homage to Vaughan Williams's *Sinfonia Antarctica*, whose premiere he attended in 1953. Vaughan Williams drew on his imagination but Sir Peter was invited by the British Antarctic Survey.

Seeking to promote the region's significance, the organisation asked the Philharmonia Orchestra to recommend a composer. The expedition will involve fund-



Maxwell Davies

ing from the Philharmonia and the Arts Council.

Sir Peter said: "The Antarctic experience will be an encounter with nature, with silence and emptiness such as one can never experience in Europe. I look forward to coming to terms with these new experiences in the symphony I will write."

He leaves for the Rothera research station in December. The symphony will have its premiere at the Festival Hall, London, in 2001.

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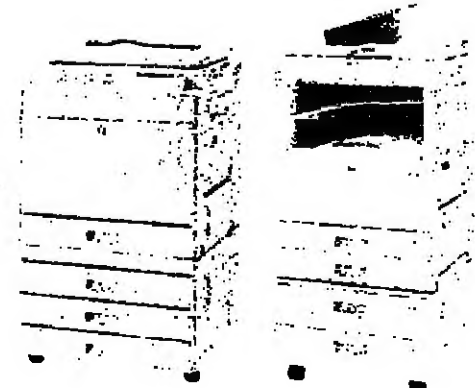
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Private member's proposal is likely to run out of time after failure to win government support

MP promises to pursue his Bill to ban hunting

By JAMES LANDALE

MICHAEL FOSTER, the Labour MP for Worcester, promised yesterday to press on with his Commons campaign to ban hunting with hounds, despite his failure to win the immediate support of the Government.

The MP, who came top in the ballot of backbenchers wishing to introduce Private Member's Bills, will formally table his Wild Mammals (Hunting with Dogs) Bill in the Commons today. However, without ministerial backing the measure is extremely vulnerable to delay and could well fail.

Although Labour has a manifesto commitment to give MPs a free vote on hunting, government business managers are concerned that the controversial Bill will disrupt their already busy parliamentary timetable. The most recent Commons attempts to ban hunting — in 1992 and 1995 — foundered through lack of parliamentary support. Downing Street sources said that the Government had no formal view on the Bill. "It will take its course as a Private Member's Bill," a spokesman said. "If the Government has to take an attitude on this it will take it in the context of its other priorities." However, the



Foster believes hunting wild animals is cruel

possibility of government support for the move in a later session of Parliament was not ruled out. Tony Blair has publicly declared his opposition to hunting.

Mr Foster refused to deny yesterday that he had come under pressure from government whips to choose a different issue for his Bill. He insisted that he was responding to pressure from his constituents to introduce the move, which has won the support of more than 170 MPs in a Commons motion.

Although a ban on hunting is likely to have the support of a majority of MPs, the

measure will face fierce opposition. When the Bill comes up for its second reading on November 28, opponents are likely to table hundreds of amendments to delay its passage.

The most vociferous criticism will come from the Lords. Because the Bill is not a government measure, peers will not be bound by a parliamentary convention that prevents them opposing manifesto commitments.

Mr Foster's Bill would ban fox-hunting, stag-hunting, hare coursing and hunting mink with hounds. He said: "I know that the vast majority of people believe, like me, that hunting wild mammals with dogs for sport is cruel and unnecessary. I think it is a barbaric practice that should have ended centuries ago along with cock-fighting, bear-baiting and dog-fighting."

Mr Foster, 34, who until recently was a competitive angler, denied that he was guilty of double standards. "Fish and wild mammals feel pain in very different ways."

The Bill has been drawn up by a group of animal welfare groups, including the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals and the International Fund for Animal Welfare.

A spokesman for the Leave Country Sports Alone Campaign, which includes Labour-supporting celebrities such as Melvyn Bragg and John Mortimer, said: "This Bill will create hostility among the many hundreds of thousands of law-abiding people who recognise that country sports are an integral part of rural life."

A spokesman for the British Field Sports Society said: "Some of the alternatives to fox-hunting used to control foxes also require the use of dogs to retrieve wounded animals. To remove dogs from the thing altogether could result in less humane treatment of animals."

Clive Aslet, page 22



Peter Barfoot, of New Forest Buckhounds: "We run a series of fundraising events, all of which would go if hunting were banned"

Hyde Park rally will test public opinion

Country sports enthusiasts are confident of widespread support, Michael Hornsby writes

HUNTING enthusiasts said yesterday that they would fiercely resist any move to ban hunting with hounds and would be lobbying hard during the coming months to win over public opinion.

The first chance to show the strength of support for hunting and other country sports will come at a rally on July 10 in Hyde Park, central London, to which the British Field Sports Society is expecting to attract 100,000 people.

Robin Hanbury-Tenison, the society's chief executive, said: "The countryside at all levels realises how important hunting is to the local economy, how important all field sports are. But hunting is integral. In remote parts of Britain it is very often the only activity that keeps the whole social life together."

"This Bill is going to be strongly

resisted. If it becomes law, it will widen the gulf between town and country and make a nonsense of Tony Blair's one-nation philosophy."

Simon Clarke, a former Master of Foxhounds, who is co-ordinating arrangements for the Hyde Park rally, said: "We have already hired nine private trains, capable of carrying 600 people each, and 600 coaches, carrying around 50 each, to bring people to the capital. A lot of others will come up to town under their own steam. I am confident that we will get a turnout of around 100,000."

In a separate protest, about 35 people who earn their living from country sports set out from Coldstream, in the Scottish Borders, and from Caldbeck, in the Lake District, last weekend to march to London, aiming to arrive in time for the rally. Three other groups, bring-

ing the number of marchers to about 100 in all, will set off on June 27 from Machynlleth and St Clears in Wales, and from Madron, near Penzance, in Cornwall. They have been offered free accommodation along the way on farms and in village halls, pubs and private homes.

John Fretwell, a huntsman with the Stowe Beagles, in Buckinghamshire, and chairman of the Union of Country Sports Workers, which organised the marches, said: "It is not just hunting that is threatened. If the anti-hunting fanatics get their way, grouse-shooting and salmon-fishing will be next on the list of targets for the abolitionists."

Hunting's defenders are encouraged by signals from Downing Street that the Private Member's Bill being introduced by Michael Foster will not receive government support and

as a result could become bogged down in the House of Lords. This will give time, they believe, to mount an effective campaign against the Bill, focusing on the social and economic impact of a hunting ban on rural communities.

Peter Barfoot, chairman of the New Forest Buckhounds, in Hampshire, said: "We run a whole series of fundraising events, such as the annual hunt ball, a point-to-point meeting, a horse show and a country fair, all of which would go if hunting were banned."

The British Field Sports Society estimates that as many as 20,000 of the 50,000 to 60,000 horses used regularly for hunting would have to be put down if the sport was banned, along with as many as 15,000 of the 20,000 hounds, because of their unsuitability as pets.

Ireland prepares for an English invasion

By AUDREY MAGEE, IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

ENGLISH enthusiasts are seeking country estates to buy in Ireland where there is no threat to the sport.

Estate agents in Dublin and Cork report a surge in inquiries from fox-hunters. Michael Daniels, a Cork estate agent, has sold two substantial properties in recent months and said he was dealing with dozens more similar inquiries. About 100,000 people hunt

in Ireland, on horseback or on foot, and there are 36 packs of foxhounds. Some Irish fox-hunters oppose any role for the English. Pamela Morden, the Irish-born spokeswoman for the British Field Sports Society, said: "There is no doubt that the Irish are worried about the English coming over in droves. The idea of upper-class tally-hos and yahoos would not appeal to most of them."

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مكتبة الامم المتحدة

Parents unite in garden tribute to murdered girls

French police are criticised for failure to find Britons' killers

By RICHARD DUCE

THE father of a French girl murdered in England was joined in prayer yesterday by the parents of two British girls killed in France as he dedicated a memorial garden to the victims of "senseless violence".

Villagers in Ombersley, Hereford and Worcester, close to where Celine Figard's body was found, raised £1,000 to create the garden in memory of the student who was murdered by a lorry driver as she hitched a lift in December 1995. It will feature plants that have links with France.

Bernard Figard and his wife, Martine, invited the parents of Caroline Dickinson and Joanna Parrish to yesterday's dedication at St Andrew's Church, Caroline, 13, was murdered on a school holiday in Brittany last year; Joanna, 20, was murdered in Auxerre seven years ago.

Standing by the memorial garden to Celine, 19, M Figard said: "In France it will always be remembered how the case of Celine was



Celine Figard

considered and handled and how many people have come together. The presence at our side of the parents of Caroline and Joanna is more than just a symbol. This garden should be a place of remembrance for all the young victims of blind and senseless violence. I would also like to associate

with them the families of people who murder. It cannot be easy for them to discover that a son, a husband, a father or a friend should be capable of such atrocity."

Roger Parrish, Joanna's father, said later: "We feel that the French authorities have not made as much effort as the British do." While British detectives painstakingly tracked down Celine's killer, Stuart Morgan, who is serving a life sentence, the murderers of Caroline and Joanna have not been found by French police.

John Dickinson, Caroline's father, said: "We had felt we ought to be here to show solidarity with the Figards and we are very impressed that they have included our daughter in their memorial. I understand that M Figard has spoken on numerous occasions on French television and radio to ask that people don't forget Joanna and Caroline. I believe that the investigation into Caroline's death is at a stage where fresh impetus is required urgently."



The parents of Caroline Dickinson and Joanna Parrish, who were murdered in France, in the memorial garden to Celine Figard

OU degree will widen access to legal career

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

THE first Open University degree course in law was announced yesterday in a move to broaden access to the profession.

The venture is a partnership between the Open University and the College of Law, which runs the professional one-year vocational courses for graduates wanting to be solicitors and barristers. Already 1,300 people have expressed interest in the course, which will cost £1,250 and will have to be completed in six years.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, said yesterday that the move was "an inspired step forward" which would help students of law who had child care or employment commitments or lived in areas with limited higher education facilities, and mature or disabled students.

In his first public speech since taking office, Lord Irvine said that the profession needed innovative people and innovative education. "This initiative provides a powerful stimulus to both."

Professor Nigel Savage, chief executive of the College of Law, said the venture would draw into the profession people from a wide variety of backgrounds. "This will be better for society and the profession."

The success of the profession, was, he said, in part due to those who had entered in

the 1960s and 1970s with the benefit of local authority grants. But the huge cut in such grants over the past ten years was threatening the profession's social diversity.

"Every year, like it or not, the legal profession is becoming more and more the preserve of the rich. The erosion of the value of the student grant, student loans and the possibility of university tuition fees makes the provision of an alternative route vital."

The first course will be offered from February 1998 for up to 1,500 students, with between 600-700 students on each of the three further courses to be introduced over the following three years. After completing the course, OU students will, like other law graduates, have to undertake further training to become solicitors or barristers.

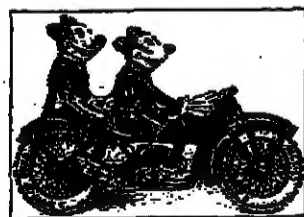
Law is a very competitive subject at university, and mature students can struggle to secure a place. Now age should be no obstacle.

Lord Irvine said yesterday that he had told Lord Bridge of Harwich, the retired senior law lord, of the initiative. Lord Bridge enrolled as an OU undergraduate at the age of 75 on a series of courses in mathematics. He is now 80 and hopes to mark the millennium by graduating.

Law, pages 39, 41

Farmer rides off with £51,000 for Disney toy

A MICKEY Mouse clockwork toy, right, whose value was discovered on the Antiques Roadshow, sold for £51,000 at Christie's South Kensington yesterday (John Shaw writes). The tinplate motorcycle with Minnie riding pillion was made in Germany before the Nazis banned Disney toys and demanded Germanic ones. Its original cardboard box attracted collectors from around the world. The winner was an American, who



paid more than double the estimate. The toy had been in the family of a Gloucestershire farmer since it was bought at Woolworths in the early 1930s.

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People found it handy for jotting things down. But soon their imaginations far outreached the pencil's functionality. There were stopgap innovations at first. The typewriter. The calculator. The word processor. Then at last, the PC was born - and so too the need for a software platform to release its full potential. Enter Microsoft® Windows®. It enabled a whole new generation of innovations - over 100,000 applications used by millions of people every day, sophisticated multimedia programs with live video and audio, powerful communications tools such as e-mail and software for exploring the Internet. The Windows operating system transformed the PC into the ultimate network computing device. People were suddenly empowered to do far more, better and faster. With Windows, even mobile users far away from their network could continue working productively as if they were still sitting in their office. But, while all this innovation provides significant benefits, we recognise that there are costs associated with it. Our mission? To continue to enhance the rich functionality of Windows-based computing, while containing and reducing the cost of ownership. It's called the Zero Administration for Windows Initiative - a long-term plan that over time will bring you a far better way to deploy and manage your organisation's desktops. Already we have announced the Zero Administration Kit. This is a set of tools, available this summer, to help simplify PC management and bring down cost of ownership by giving you a new level of control over your Microsoft Windows and Microsoft® Windows NT® Workstation-based computers. But this is just another step along the way. With each announcement we make, and every new product we release, you'll see that you really can have the best of both worlds - the rich Windows environment your users need, at a cost you can live with. And that's exactly the point.



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Charity puts spiritual healers to the test

Actors will 'treat' patients in £45,000 medical trial

BY ANJANA AHUJA

ACTORS willing to don crystal necklaces and a thoughtful expression are to take part in an unusual medical trial when the Wellcome Trust, the country's leading medical charity, pays £45,000 to put spiritual healing to the test.

The charity has awarded the grant to Neil Abbot and Edvard Ernst, Professor of Complementary Medicine at Exeter University, who will conduct a controlled clinical trial of whether spiritual healers do their patients any good. The money has come from the Sir Henry Wellcome Commemorative Award programme, a scheme to recognise "innovative, speculative, adventurous and novel" research proposals.

Professor Ernst said: "Healers try to transmit an undefined type of energy and love from themselves into the patient. They tend to pass their hands over the body without touching it. The way it is supposed to work, by transmitting energy, totally defies the laws of physics. However, many healers work for free, which shows they are very dedicated and must be driven by conviction."

The most difficult hurdle for such a trial is the "placebo effect", where the effectiveness of a therapy may be partially due to the volunteer's belief that it will do them good. Medical researchers overcome this problem by dividing volunteers into two groups and giving one group the real drug and the other group a placebo.

an identical-looking but inactive pill. Volunteers do not know which they are receiving: sometimes not even the researchers know which volunteers are being given the real drug.

Professor Ernst came up with two ways of eliminating the placebo effect in tests of spiritual healing. One was to hide the healer from view, behind a curtain. In some cases, a healer would be there. In others, the healer would be absent. The patient would not be told.

In the second scenario, which has yet to be approved by the ethics committee at Exeter University, actors will be "placebo" healers. They will observe real healers at work and copy them, with one crucial difference. Professor Ernst explained: "Instead of thinking about the patients, the actors will be asked to think about something banal, such as having a tooth extracted."

Some patients in the trial will be treated by the actors, others by real healers. After discussion with healers, Professor Ernst has decided to enlist 100 volunteers who suffer constant pain, such as back pain or arthritis, as there are fairly reliable techniques to assess the degree of pain experienced. Five healers from Exeter have agreed to participate. The studies should be completed within a year, and the results ready to publish soon afterwards.

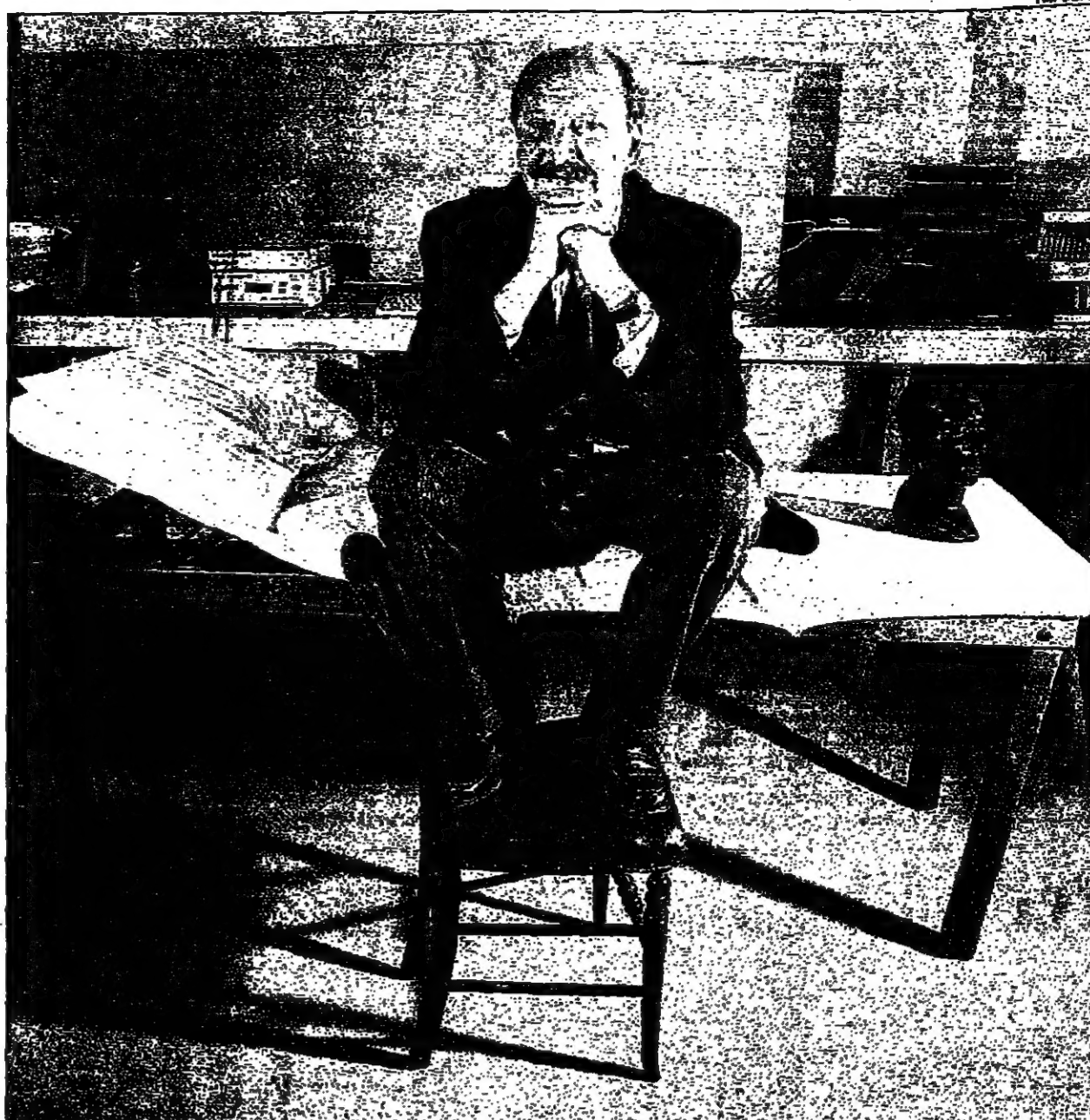
Dr Abbot will also be studying the ancient practice of wart

charming, where a healer is given the name of someone with warts or another skin condition and attempts to banish the disease purely by the power of thought.

Healer and patient need never meet, so patients do not know whether they are being prayed for, and the skin conditions can be photographed and measured to provide concrete evidence of the charmer's effectiveness.

Professor Ernst holds the only chair in complementary medicine in the world. "One in three people is using or has used a complementary therapy but we don't really know if the treatments are effective," he said. "At the very least, we should be making sure that people are not being harmed by them. There are about 150 therapies, so research can't be done on a shoestring."

In past studies Professor Ernst, who is also a medical doctor, and his team have focused on therapies such as acupuncture, homeopathy, herbalism and spinal manipulation. So far they have discovered that acupuncture can combat lower back pain but cannot help smokers to kick their habit. Practices involving spinal manipulation, such as osteopathy and chiropractic, are deemed to be worthwhile. Professor Ernst also plans to investigate the Bach Flower Remedies' Rescue Remedy, said to relieve stress, and chitosan, a powder of crab and prawn shells used in weight-loss pills.



Edvard Ernst has discovered that acupuncture can help lower back pain but will not help smokers to quit

Oil diet for cows cuts heart risk to humans

BY AUDREY MAGEE
IRELAND CORRESPONDENT

SCIENTISTS have developed a natural milk that protects against heart disease and has reduced levels of saturated fat.

Biochemists in Cork fed rapeseed oil to grazing cows and discovered that their milk, butter and cheese was less fatty. However, they also found that the new product worked actively to protect the heart against disease. Hospital tests in Dublin showed that the milk had beneficial effects for people with high-cholesterol levels.

The milk, which has yet to be sold commercially, is produced by controlling the amount of grass consumed by the cow. A grazing cow normally produces unsaturated fats during rumination, which are converted to saturated forms as they pass through the udders.

But the Cork team at Teagasc, the Irish agriculture and food research body, found that replacing one tenth of the 16 kilograms of grass consumed by a cow each day with rape oil had startling effects.

The oil increases the production of oleic acid, an unsaturated fatty acid known to protect against heart disease. A diet high in oleic acid reduces the presence of the soluble proteins in the blood plasma associated with coronary heart disease while increasing the level of other soluble proteins known to protect against heart disease.

A team at the cardiology unit at Beaumont Hospital in Dublin carried out a study of 30 patients with cholesterol problems to gauge the effect of the modified milk, cheese and butter. Dr Declan O'Callaghan, a research lecturer, said that the patients benefited from the Cork dairy products through the increase of soluble proteins protecting against heart disease.

Gene study rejects compulsory testing for life insurance

BY IAN MURRAY
MEDICAL CORRESPONDENT

THE British are more likely to die from cancer and heart disease than people from 26 of the world's most developed nations. Both illnesses can be passed on in genes, but compulsory genetic testing for those applying for life insurance is too expensive and too complicated to be worthwhile, according to a survey published today.

The British are nearly four times more likely to die from cancer as the Mexicans and five times more likely than the French to die of heart

diseases. The Chinese, Russians, Poles and Indians all suffer less from them. The Japanese and Canadians are among the five least affected by both.

There has been rapid progress in identifying genes linked to human disease since 1989, when scientists discovered the one which causes cystic fibrosis. About 90 per cent of all human genes have now been uncovered by the worldwide Human Genome Project, with more than 5,000 disease-causing genetic mutations identified. Commercial tests exist to check for predispositions to Alzheimer's and breast

cancer. Hundreds more will soon be on the market.

Fears that people with disease-prone genes could become uninsurable if tests were compulsory have led Belgium, Norway and Austria and 13 American states to ban their use. France has a five-year moratorium on such tests, while the Dutch temporarily allow them only on policies worth more than £70,000.

The British insurance industry has deferred any decision until March 1999, but it requires anyone seeking a mortgage-linked policy to disclose the results of any genetic test they have taken. Insurers

guarantee not to take the findings into account for policies of £100,000 or less, saying they need to know only to help to assess risk generally.

They argue that information about the proportion of people suffering from genetic-related diseases can help them to provide affordable coverage for health care. This is because diseases such as Alzheimer's can prove far more costly to an insurer than an illness which brings sudden death.

But the Economist Intelligence Unit has found that so many genes are involved in diseases that a test for all of them would be prohibitive-

ly expensive. A comprehensive test for breast cancer genes costs £1,500, yet it would miss 20 per cent of cases.

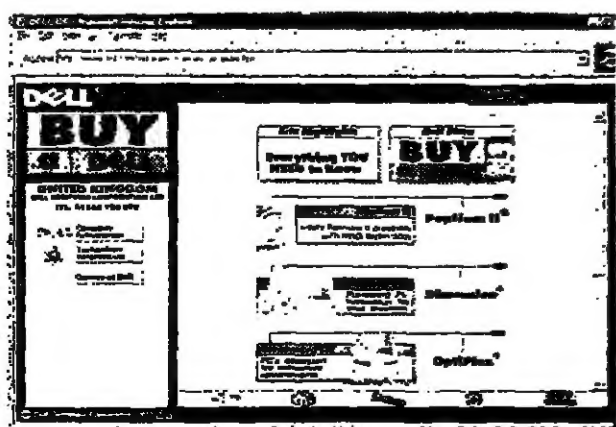
Hugh Watkins, Professor of Cardiovascular Medicine at the University of Oxford, found that, even with relatively simple genetic disorders, mutations can have different effects. He thinks that scientists have over-promoted the predictive value of genetic testing. "With family histories in hand and banks of tests for blood pressure, cholesterol and heart functions, the added complexity and expense of performing genetic tests for common diseases is look-

ing less and less justifiable. Fears that genetic screening might bring about the breakdown of the principle of life insurance therefore look groundless," the report says.

Parents can check how often their children eat crisps and chips at school thanks to a payment card introduced by a Kent headmaster.

Concern over unhealthy eating habits led Gordon Clubb, of Oldborough Manor Community School in Maidstone, to introduce a swipe-card system for all food purchases. Daily printouts are available to parents and Mr Clubb plans prizes for the healthiest eater of the term.

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Fraser Darling: denied charges of indecency

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Oil diet for cows cuts heart risk to humans

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The new method, which involves feeding cows a diet of rapeseed oil, could reduce the level of saturated fat in milk by up to 50 per cent.

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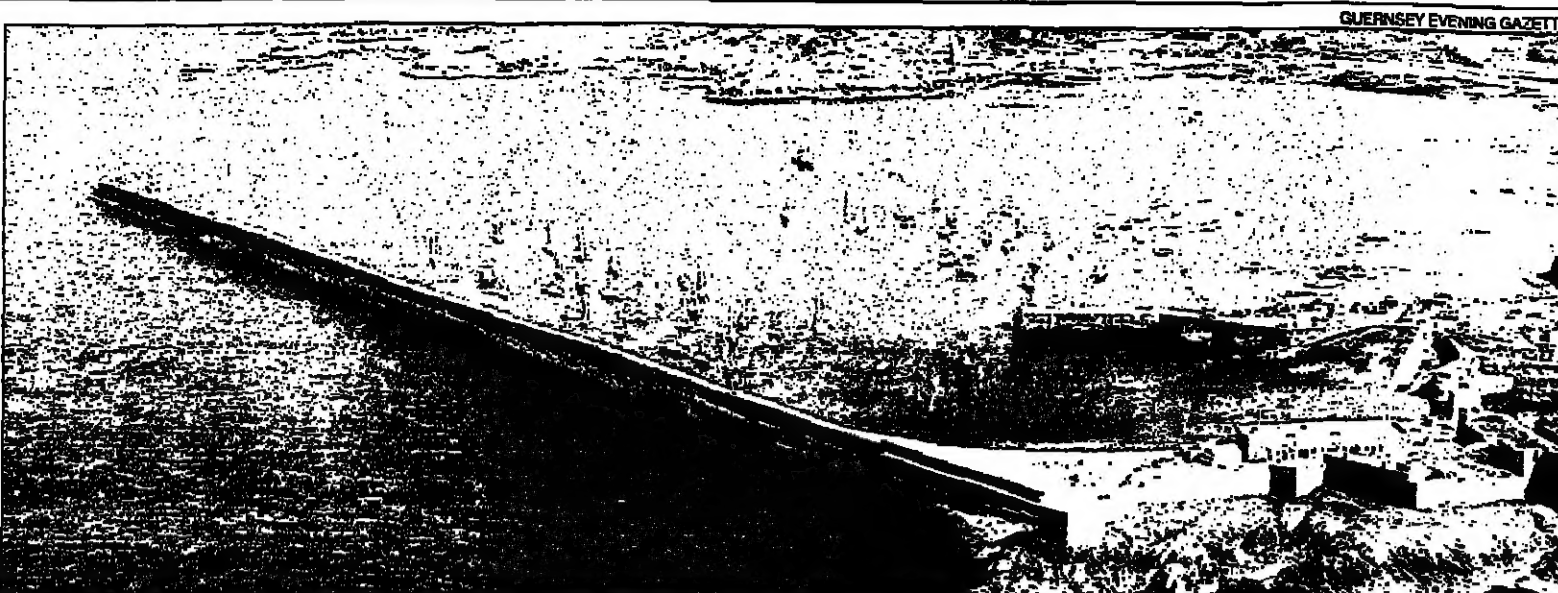
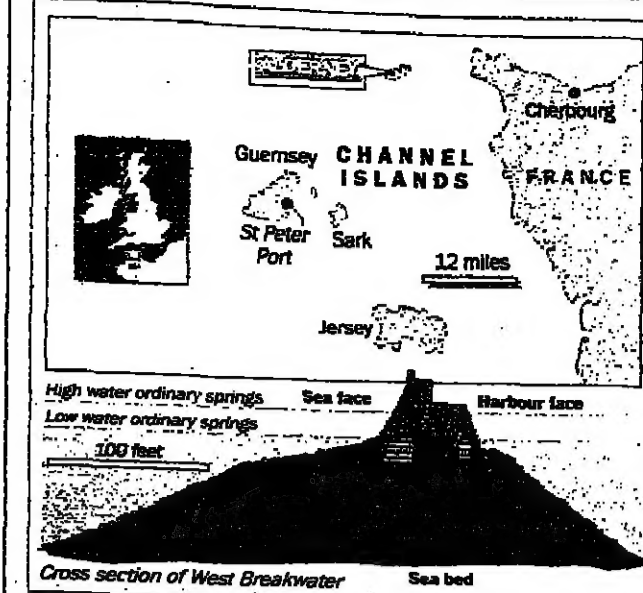
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Alderney defends breakwater built to repel the French

BY MARCUS BINNEY AND PHILIP JELINE

EMOTIONS are running high on Alderney over plans to allow one of the island's most prominent landmarks, a massive Victorian breakwater, to fall into ruin.

The Channel Islands is furious about the proposal from neighbouring Guernsey, which is responsible for the maintenance of the breakwater at Braye Harbour.

Guernsey's Board of Administration says that to repair the breakwater will cost £40 million, which it cannot afford. Instead, it proposes to spend £16.6 million on a small breakwater and 150-berth marina.

The largest crowds seen in Alderney (pop. 2,300) for 50 years have packed stormy public meetings, posters have sprung up around the capital, St Anne's, and oft "Save me!" graffiti has appeared on the breakwater wall.

There has even been talk of blockading the Guernsey capital of St Peter Port — a gesture normally the preserve of militant French fishermen.

The breakwater, begun in 1847, is one of the great feats of 19th-century marine engineering. At low tide, it has a depth of 130ft below water. The States of Guernsey will vote next week on the proposal for a replacement.

Roy Bisson, a Guernsey deputy, is seeking a one-year delay to reconsider the cost of continued maintenance.

Defenders of the breakwater say trouble began in 1962 when the Department of the Environment stopped tipping stone off the breakwater onto the mount below. By restarting tipping, they say, the breakwater can be maintained indefinitely at reasonable cost. The breakwater is maintained by eight permanent staff, assisted by six divers during the summer.

Mr Bisson said: "Rather than exhaust Guernsey's reserve on a new harbour wall, I believe we can safeguard the existing breakwater for an extra £300,000 a year, which will provide local employment, whereas a new harbour wall would have to be built by outside contractors."

The residents of Alderney say that Guernsey has a duty to maintain the breakwater and that if it is left to decay the high-speed visiting yachtsmen will cease to visit the harbour. There are also serious concerns among residents about the effect of long-term coastal erosion in Braye bay.

The breakwater, which carries the Channel Islands' only working railway, built to maintain it, bears witness to British fears of French invasion during the 19th century. In the 1840s the Admiralty feared that the French would rush thousands of troops across the Channel from Cherbourg. Alderney, just 25 miles from Cherbourg, and the new harbour at Portland were "the eyes" of the Channel, the defence against French attack.

Napoleon III's coup d'état in 1851 fuelled British fears, and by 1864 the breakwater had reached 1,600 yards. The outer 600 yards was later abandoned to form a reef.

Court hears of Briton's frolics with Thai boys

FROM ANDREW DRUMMOND IN PHUKET

THE son of a Scottish naturalist was the talk of the expatriate community on the Thai island of Phuket because he frolicked with naked seagypsy children, a court was told yesterday.

However, a witness said that James Fraser Darling, 47, son of Sir Frank Fraser Darling, a naturalist and ornithologist, was not a paedophile, but just a lonely man interested in local culture.

Bruce Stanley, 49, a Canadian teacher and journalist, told Phuket Town Criminal Court that he went on several trips with Mr Fraser Darling and the children and never saw anything untoward. The boys, he said, always took off their clothes, but that was not unusual.

Mr Stanley was shown pictures of naked gypsy boys in tourist magazines by defence counsel. "Yes, this is how they normally are," he said. The prosecution then showed an explicit photograph allegedly taken by Mr Fraser Darling and asked if it was pornographic. "It's not one I care for," Mr Stanley replied.

He described his friend, also a teacher, as a lonely man who wanted to become involved in the life of the village.



Fraser Darling: denied charges of indecency

"James was in charge of the English curriculum. He was very popular with the students, who would come to see him after school for extra help. I took him home several times and on one occasion there were *chao lae* [sea gypsies] in his house. But this seemed to be irritating to him."

"I think the children were like his family. He was like an uncle to them. He was very interested in their culture and worried about the impact of tourists on their village."

He said there had been concern in the expatriate community and he told Mr Fraser Darling so. Mr Stanley said they had often exchanged books, but he had not seen one that carried an article by a J. Darling describing Roman orgies with boys.

Outside the court he said: "James is just eccentric. He imagines he is Emperor Nero, that he has been reborn as Emperor Nero. But he is a very educated man."

Mr Fraser Darling, from Edinburgh, denies 18 charges of indecency with young boys and separating the boys from their parents. According to prosecution testimony, he lured a number of young sea gypsies, who live by begging, fishing and diving for pearl oysters, to commit sexual acts after he showered them with gifts.

He told the court that he was not the J. Darling who had written an essay for a paedophile magazine about sex with pearl-diving boys in Roman times. "My name is Fraser Darling, not Darling," he said.

The case was investigated by the Children's Rights Protection Centre in Bangkok, Phuket ChildWatch and the Coalition to Fight Against Child Exploitation. The case is being monitored by the Thai Interior Ministry, which is concerned about foreign paedophiles. The trial continues.

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Dead land dealer 'was tortured by Arafat's agents'

FROM CHRISTOPHER WALKER IN JERUSALEM

THE Palestinian campaign against Arabs suspected of selling land to Jews intensified yesterday as details of the death of a fourth land merchant were revealed and Palestinian legislators began drafting a law to brand such sales a "great treason".

Hakem Kamhawi, 57, died on Sunday at a hospital in the increasingly lawless Palestinian self-rule town of Ramallah, where the bodies of the three previous land dealers murdered by Palestinian hit squads have been dumped since the Justice Minister announced last month that selling property to Jews was a capital offence.

The land issue, together with the continuing failure of the latest Egyptian diplomatic initiative, is seen as the main reason behind the new upsurge of Israeli-Palestinian violence which raged yesterday for a third day, leaving at least 38 Palestinians wounded in Hebron by Israeli troops and an Arab youth shot and wounded by a Jewish settler in the Gaza Strip.

Benjamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, last night accused Yasser Arafat's Palestinian Authority of provoking the new wave of violence and said that Palestinian police were not taking action to prevent the attacks on Israeli targets.

International condemnation of the land-related murders,

including a threat by the United States to cut off aid to the Palestinian Authority, has had no effect. Palestinian protesters, in renewed violence that has left more than 80 Arabs injured in the past three days, have begun carrying banners declaring "Land or death".

The Palestinian security services, implicated in the land killings, made an ineffective attempt to cover up the circumstances of the latest death, claiming alternately that Mr Kamhawi had committed suicide or died of a heart attack.

His widow, Ansaf, told journalists that these official claims were untrue. She said her husband had no reason to take his life. "He would never have committed suicide," she added in an interview which could bring retaliation from Mr Arafat's security agents. "I saw his body. It showed signs of torture." He was buried in Nablus on Sunday.

Although mystery shrouded some details of Mr Kamhawi's final weeks, it emerged that he was initially arrested in the Palestinian-run city of Nablus two weeks ago accused of selling 15 acres of land to Jewish settlers. He was then sent to a notorious interrogation centre in Jericho where other Arab suspects have been savagely tortured in the past.

According to Palestinian sources, his questioning was conducted by agents of the

same unit of the Palestinian security service implicated in the deaths of two of the three land dealers already murdered. A fourth was rescued by Israeli police en route to prison in Ramallah after being kidnapped by a Palestinian death squad. Others are now living in hiding.

There have been no convincing expressions of remorse from Palestinian officials at the new spate of gangland-style killings. Frieih Abu Medein, the Palestinian Justice Minister, boasted that another 20 Palestinians are now under interrogation on suspicion of selling land to Jews.

Mr Netanyahu has dismissed the new policy of officially inspired murders as racist. Israel plans to submit a formal complaint to the United Nations Committee on Human Rights.

Leading article, page 23



A Jewish settler in the Gaza Strip tries to run down Palestinian television journalists in his tractor yesterday. Earlier he fired pistol shots, wounding one Palestinian in the knee. The media had gone to meet Palestinians protesting for the past week against land confiscations by Jewish settlers

Militants force pop singer to cancel

BY CHRISTOPHER WALKER

THE Irish singer Sinéad O'Connor yesterday cancelled her appearance on Saturday at a Jerusalem peace concert after receiving a death threat from Jewish militants.

The threat, which came in a call to the British Embassy in Tel Aviv, said O'Connor would be killed if she set foot in Israel. The concert is to promote joint sovereignty of Jerusalem.

In the wake of the 1995 assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, the Prime Minister, at a peace rally in Tel Aviv by a right-wing extremist, the threat was treated extremely seriously.

O'Connor said in her statement: "I was approached to appear at the proposed concert on June 21 on the basis of peace and reconciliation by a group called The Jerusalem Link, a Palestinian and Israeli women's joint venture for peace."

"Once I was made aware that a threat had been issued, I immediately cancelled my appearance. I am the mother



O'Connor: feared for herself and her band

of two young children. I will not do anything that could jeopardise their future, my own safety and the safety of the musicians and crew that work with me."

The Israeli organisers of the open-air concert reacted to the cancellation with dismay. "This is a sad day for Israeli democracy," said Dalia Shelef, one of the concert's organisers. "These extreme rightwingers have shown that they can dictate how the rest of us must live our lives just with a single threat of violence."

After working in the world's most dangerous trouble spots, Don McCullin brings the shutters down at home.



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Watergate's poison of mistrust lingers on

FROM TOM RHODES IN WASHINGTON

EXACTLY 25 years after Watergate, most Americans view the scandal as a watershed which led to a universal distrust in the Government.

As America tries to exorcise the ghosts of the break-in on June 17, 1972, and the resignation of President Nixon two years later, a survey by *Time* magazine found that 78 per cent of the country believed Watergate had diminished the credibility of the presidency. While some experts view the scandal as a reaffirmation of America's constitutional democracy at work, many involved said Watergate still cast a long shadow over the process of government.

Howard Baker, the former Republican senator who gained fame on the Watergate committee for his insistent question "What did the President know and when did he know it?", said the country had failed to recover from the consequences. "My direct concern about Watergate," he said, "other than the obvious fact that we went through a great political trauma, is that

the example of Watergate and the cynicism that followed may turn off young men and women who ought to be in government and who ought to be aspiring to political office."

In practical terms, Watergate resulted in the most sweeping reform of election law. Previously, individuals could donate unlimited amounts of money to candidates. Foreign donations were

not banned. Hours before Richard Nixon announced his resignation from the presidency, however, Congress passed legislation which blocked large-scale contributions. The 1974 Bill limited individual donations to \$1,000 (\$625) a candidate, restricted spending in congressional races, and created the Federal Election Commission.

Two years later the Supreme Court ruled the spending limits to be violations of free-speech rights, leading to an explosion of political action committees that now spend millions of dollars promoting candidates.

Loopholes provided ambitious politicians with an easy means of seeking unregulated donations of "soft money", contributions now central to the investigation into irregular fundraising for President Clinton's re-election last year.

The dual legacy of Watergate remains both a mistrust of government and the inability of America's politicians to effect serious campaign finance reform. But in the capital yesterday the event took a theatrical turn when the Watergate Hotel hosted a "Break-In Party" featuring

waiters dressed as Secret Service agents and copies of the *Washington Post* articles about the crime.

Paul Loeper, one of the police officers who arrested the burglars at the headquarters of the Democratic National Committee, was joined



Carl Bernstein, left, and Robert Woodward, *Washington Post* journalists who uncovered the Watergate scandal

at the hotel by Patrick Butters, a Nixon impersonator. The official anniversary today will be marked in Room 723 at the Premier Hotel across the road, the look-out post for the five burglars. For six months the room has been refurbished with various memorabilia, including the wigs used by the

four men, their walkie-talkies and a copy of the President's resignation letter.

Gordon Liddy, the former White House adviser turned talkshow host, will broadcast his show from the Premier in what he promises will be a no-holds-barred account of what took place when

his accomplices broke into the Watergate building.

For aficionados the most burning question still remains the identity of Deep Throat, the shadowy figure who leaked information to Bob Woodward and Carl Bernstein, the two *Washington Post* reporters who broke the

story. The duo have said they will only reveal their source when he dies.

Their former editor, Ben Bradlee, said: "I took Woodward for a walk in McPherson Square and said, 'It's time that I have the name' and he gave it to me ... I've never told a soul."

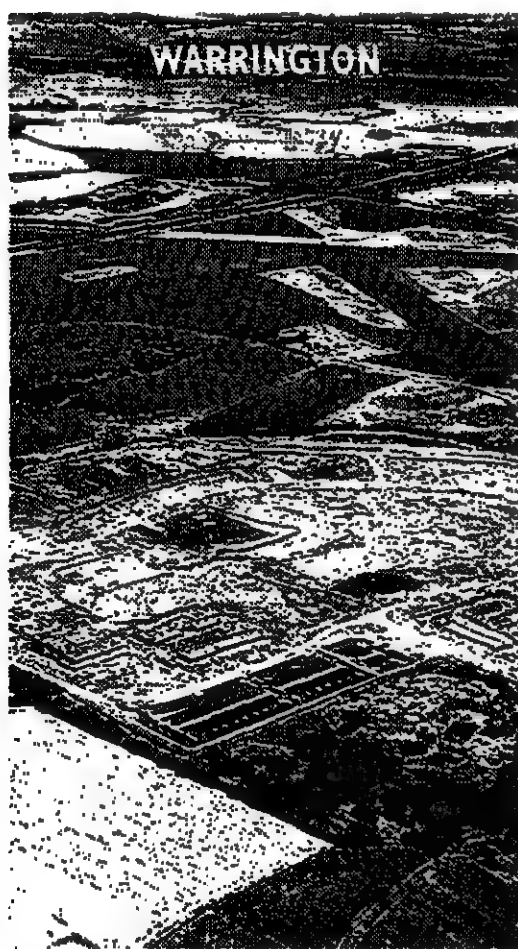


President Nixon announces his resignation in 1974



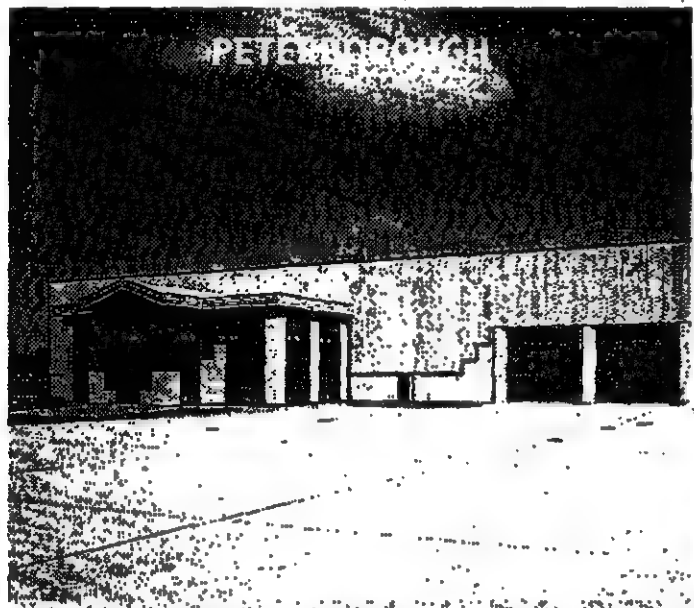
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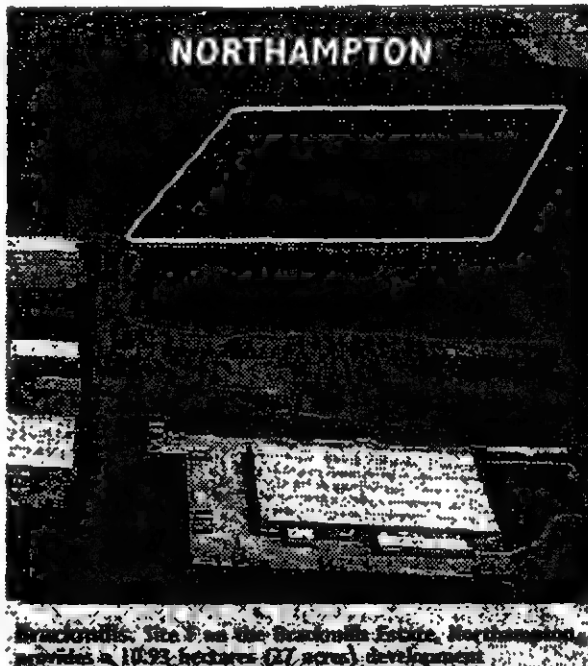
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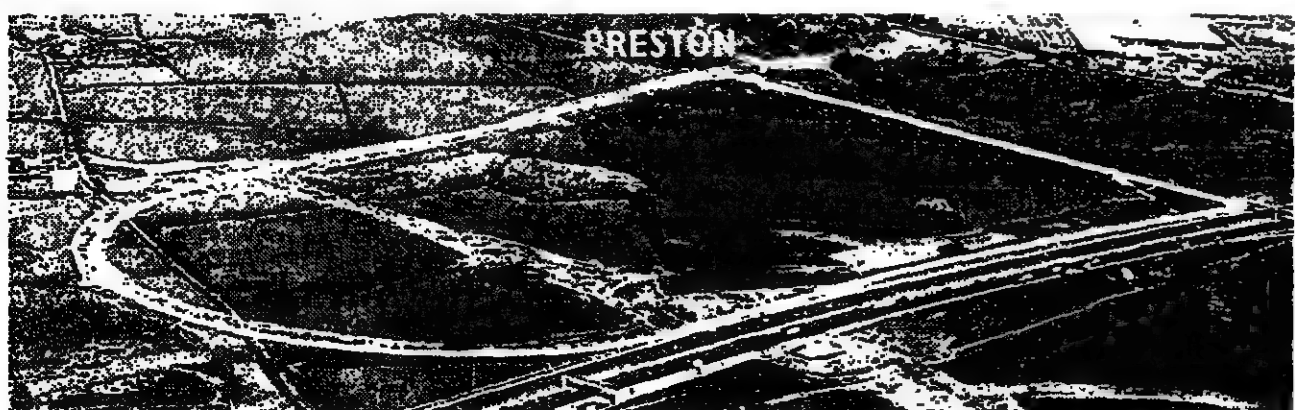
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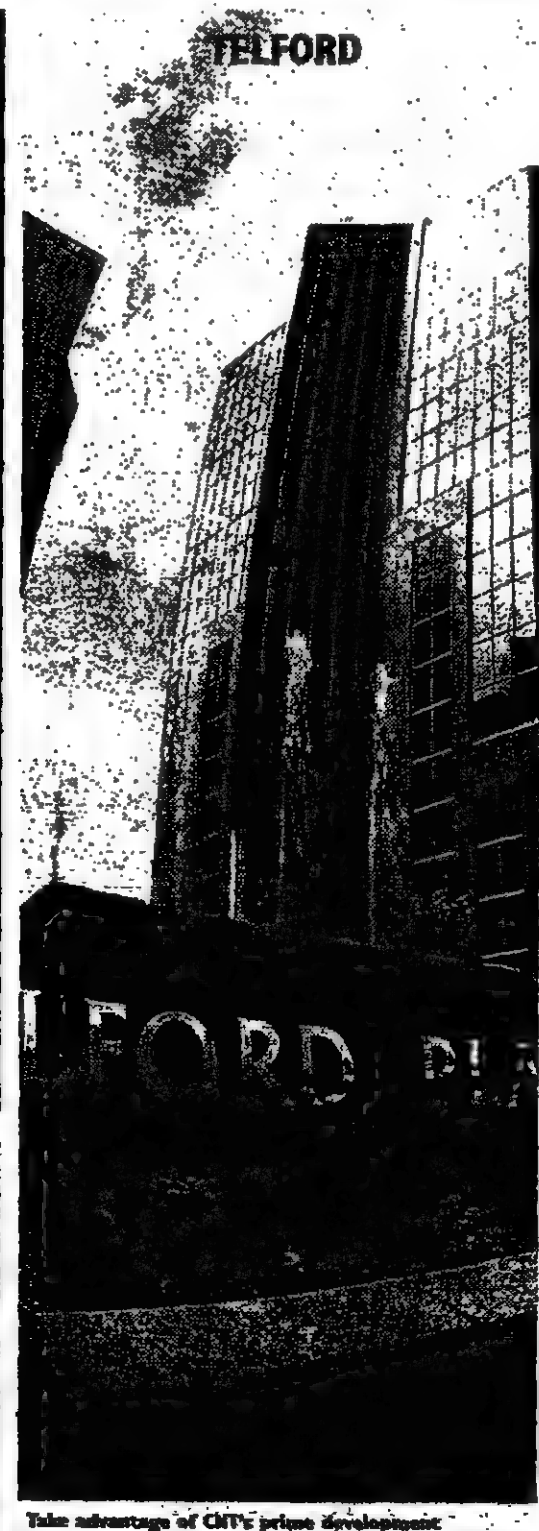
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Plan for slavery apology attacked

By TOM RHODES

PRESIDENT Clinton was criticised yesterday for considering making an official apology to black Americans for slavery.

A bipartisan group in Congress is urging Mr Clinton to make the statement as part of his year-long programme to bridge the racial divide in the United States.

Stopping just short of making a commitment to the move, the President said: "Surely every American knows that slavery was wrong and that we paid a terrible price for it, and that we have to keep repairing that."

But Trent Lott, the leader of the Republican majority in the Senate, said he would probably oppose such an apology if it ever came to a vote. Newt Gingrich, the House Speaker, said: "We can go back and have all sorts of apologies. But will one more child read because of it?"

Ward Connerly, the black businessman who championed Proposition 209, anti-affirmative action legislation in California, said: "Apologising for slavery is probably one of the dumbest things anyone could do."

Epidemic brings call to ease Cuba ban

By DAVID ADAMS
LATIN AMERICA
CORRESPONDENT

POLITICIANS and health experts in the United States are preparing to unveil a new challenge to the American trade embargo against Cuba, arguing that it has severely undermined health conditions on the Communist island.

Tomorrow a bipartisan coalition in the US Congress is due to announce the introduction of the Cuban Humanitarian Trade Act, which seeks to end restrictions on the sale of food and medicine to Cuba. It comes amid reports of a viral epidemic in the eastern city of Santiago de Cuba.

The Bill has attracted surprising support among Republicans, who have traditionally backed efforts to tighten the economic noose on Cuba. "How can a great nation like the US target Cuba's civilians by denying them necessary medicine?" asked Malcolm Wallop, a former Republican senator lobbying for the Bill.

Supporters of the Bill say Cuba's health system was one of the world's most effective until a series of US measures to tighten the embargo were adopted by Congress in the last five years.

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Turncoats 'hope to take Pol Pot alive within days'

FROM JAMES PRINGLE IN PHNOM PENH

BREAKAWAY Khmer Rouge fighters were yesterday closing in on their former leader, Pol Pot, hoping to capture him alive in the next few days, Prince Norodom Ranariddh, the Cambodian First Co-Prime Minister, said.

The Khmer Rouge rebels, now allied to the Government, are pursuing their ailing former "Brother Number One" in heavily forested northern Cambodia. If captured, he would be handed over to an international tribunal for judgment, Prince Ranariddh said. Under Pol Pot's rule in the 1970s, one million Cambodians were executed or died of hunger and disease.

The Prince said his new Khmer Rouge allies had intercepted a convoy of ten lorries heading for the Thai border. Six senior Khmer Rouge officials wishing to discuss surrender with the Government in Phnom Penh were freed, but four lorriesloads of Khmer Rouge members escaped. The four vehicles were carrying Pol Pot and would-be peace-makers - Khieu Samphan, a Khmer Rouge leader, and Nuon Chea, "Brother Number Two". Prince Ranariddh said: "Pol Pot does not want Khieu Samphan to surrender."

About 95 per cent of Pol Pot's hardline faction had broken with their leader and

would announce tomorrow their intention to join the Cambodian armed forces, the Prince said. "It is the real end of the Khmer Rouge and is good for peace in Asia," he added.

However, Hun Sen, the Second Co-Prime Minister, whose former Communist Cambodian People's Party shares power with Prince Ranariddh's royalist grouping, Funcinpec, demanded the arrest of Khmer Rouge leaders and said that anyone negotiating with them was breaking the law.

"The Khmer Rouge have died militarily but now some people want to bring them back to life politically," Hun Sen said. "I will accuse anyone who helps the Khmer Rouge or brings them to Phnom Penh of breaking the law."

Prince Ranariddh, speaking at a school opening just out-

side Phnom Penh, said Khieu Samphan had told his aides that Christopher Howes, the British mine-clearance expert captured at Angkor Wat in 1995, was with a Khmer Rouge official named "Sarouen" in Pol Pot's entourage. There was no independent confirmation of this, however.

"Pol Pot, dead or alive, has been set up as the scapegoat for all the other surviving Khmer Rouge leaders who will now be joining Ranariddh's side in opposition to Hun Sen," one diplomat said.

Under Prince Ranariddh's plans, the Khmer Rouge will not have disappeared: so-called moderate leaders such as Khieu Samphan, who wrote the blueprint for the murderous agrarian revolution that emptied the cities, will be permitted to form a new party.

Moreover, analysts believe it is unlikely that Pol Pot will ever stand trial. Most leading politicians are either former Khmer Rouge themselves, like Hun Sen, or have co-operated with them, as Prince Ranariddh did in the 1980s.

The mutual hostility between the Prince and Hun Sen, both of whom have hundreds of bodyguards, has given rise to fears of a new civil war in the run-up to elections next year.



Symbol of the colonial era packed away

Old hand is new envoy to Beijing

BY MICHAEL EVANS

THE appointment of a new Ambassador to Beijing was announced by the Foreign Office yesterday, two weeks before Hong Kong is to be handed over to China.

Tony Galsworthy, who is a former senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group in Hong Kong, will take over as ambassador in December. He replaces Sir Len Appleyard, who is retiring.

Mr Galsworthy, 52, will succeed as ambassador at a sensitive period in relations with China. Hong Kong will have been in Chinese hands for five months when he moves into the embassy in Beijing, and Britain and the international community will be watching to see how China's policy of "one country, two systems" is working.

Only this week, the Foreign Office condemned the laws approved by the Beijing-appointed Provisional Legislative Council to curb civil liberties in Hong Kong.

After July 1, Britain's main diplomatic representatives in China will consist of the Ambassador in Beijing, a Consul-General in Hong Kong, a new post yet to be filled and, until the turn of the century, the senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group. This group is to stay in existence until 2000 to monitor the implementation of the Joint Declaration on Hong Kong.

Theoretically, the Consul-General will come under the aegis of the Ambassador in Beijing. But since Hong Kong is to remain a separate political entity within China, he or she will retain a degree of independence to reflect the fact that Hong Kong will enjoy a large degree of autonomy. At present Britain has a Trade Commissioner in Hong Kong, whose role and status will be superseded by the appointment of the Consul-General.

Mr Galsworthy is well known to Beijing. He was senior representative of the Joint Liaison Group from 1989 to 1993, after the massacre of pro-democracy demonstrators in Tiananmen Square in 1989.



The Queen's portrait is removed at the Prince of Wales barracks in Hong Kong



Refugee move

Hong Kong has shut a major refugee detention centre, the Whitehead, before China takes over. However, despite Beijing's demand that all Vietnamese boat people leave the territory before July 1, more than 3,000 remain. (Reuters)

Knight 'errant'

Donald Tsang, Hong Kong's Financial Secretary, took a gamble by accepting a knighthood from the Queen in the last days of British colonial rule, political analysts said. Some believe that his acceptance of the honour could antagonise China. (Reuters)

Taiwan invited

Taiwan has been invited to celebrate the handover of the colony in two weeks' time, setting the stage for possible Taiwan-China reunification talks. Diplomats predicted officials from Beijing and Taipei would confer on the sidelines. (Reuters)

Boycott rejected

Eienne Reuter, the European Union's Hong Kong representative, expects most European governments to ignore an Anglo-American boycott and attend the inauguration of the unelected Provisional Legislature on July 1. (Reuters)

Beijing arrests six over banned thriller

FROM JONATHAN MISKY IN HONG KONG

SIX people linked to a novel about Beijing's greatest corruption scandal of the decade, which brushed close to the family of Deng Xiaoping, the late senior leader, have been detained in an act recalling the jailing and death of a playwright in Mao's day who criticised the Chairman.

According to reports, those arrested are connected with the novel *Wrath of Heaven*, a thinly disguised account of an anti-corruption official's uphill battle to solve the murder or suicide of Beijing's Deputy Mayor. This is a direct reference to the alleged suicide in 1995 of Wang Baosen, Beijing's Deputy Mayor, a close associate of Chen Xifeng, one of seven

members of the Politburo Standing Committee, China's ruling body. Mr Chen, portrayed in official biographies as cultured and honest, was a Deng protégé and Beijing's Mayor during the Tiananmen killings. Soon after Wang's death, Mr Chen was arrested and Beijing hummed with rumours that he and Wang had shared a mistress who had been present when Wang shot himself or was murdered in the hills near the capital. The woman disappeared.

A Beijing newspaper alleged Mr Chen "had an unshirkable responsibility for the Wang Baosen case". This involved the greatest embezzlement case since the party came to power, estimated at £200 million, which toppled Zhou Guanwu, director of Beijing's largest steel complex and an old army comrade of Deng, the

sentencing to death of Zhou's son, Zhou Beifang, a friend of one of Deng's sons, and the detention of 60 high officials. Mr Chen remains under house arrest while the party dithers about how to handle his case because of his links to the Dengs.

Much of this is touched on in *Wrath of Heaven*, which has been banned for several months. The original plates were seized but the novel has had a wide pirated sale. The whereabouts of the author, Chen Fang, are unknown.

In 1965, the opening shot in the Cultural Revolution was the criticism of *Hai Rui Defies the Emperor*, a play set in the 17th century which alluded to the purge of one of Mao's comrades. Its author, Wu Han, a Deputy Mayor of Beijing, was arrested in 1966 and died in jail three years later.

Plea to Blair on Aborigines

FROM ROGER MAYNARD IN SYDNEY

CHURCH and human rights groups have launched a twin-pronged attack on the Australian Prime Minister's policy on Aborigines by booking a full-page advertisement to appear in *The Times*, and sending a letter to the newspaper's Editor.

John Howard, who arrives in London tomorrow for talks with Tony Blair, will face criticism about his failure to give a formal apology to the so-called stolen children and his attitude to Aboriginal land rights.

The full-page advertisement, which has been finan-

ced by a group calling itself Australians for Native Title, will call for British support in the struggle to gain justice for Aborigines.

The open letter also asks Mr Blair to raise the native title issue when he meets Mr Howard and demand a national apology to the thousands of Aboriginal children who were forcibly taken from their families earlier this century.

Mr Howard labelled the proposed advertisement a "stunt", shortly before leaving for London last night. He said the cost would have been

better spent on relief for indigenous and disadvantaged Australians. He insisted in a radio interview that he could not "imagine an American President or a British Prime Minister presuming to give me advice on Australian affairs".

The authors of the letter to *The Times* argue that native title is a human rights issue and therefore falls within Mr Blair's election pledge to focus on human rights in foreign policy.

Letters, page 23

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Deal to tighten net around quota hoppers likely to disappoint British

NEW measures to tackle the problem of Spanish fishermen buying up British fish quotas are expected to be unveiled today after months of wrangling (Philip Webster and Michael Hornsby write).

The moves, falling far short of what British fishing organisations have been demanding, are likely to make it compulsory that foreign vessels land at least half their catch at British ports, with tighter

FISHING

registration requirements on boat and crew nationality.

Quota hoppers are foreign companies which buy up British fishing licences and then register their trawlers in Britain, so entitling them to take a share of the fish catch allocated to the British fleet. There are about 160 operat-

ing at present. There was never any serious prospect of altering current European Union rules to stop foreign-owned trawlers buying up unwanted British fishing licences and taking a share of the catch.

Britain hopes that the new measures will make quota hopping less attractive to overseas owners. Spain was still opposing parts of the deal last night but

Britain was confident that its objections would be overruled.

After talks yesterday in Amsterdam between Jacques Santer, the Commission President, and Tony Blair, the Commission will make a declaration today on a deal that will involve "economic linkage" with clear benefits to Britain from Spanish or other foreign boats fishing in UK waters. The benefits would include a British contingent

in the crew of the vessels, and the requirement that a big proportion of the catch be landed in Britain.

The matter is being dealt with through a declaration rather than the new European treaty for fear that the Spanish might have attempted to veto it.

The other key element of the deal is that the Commission will be responsible for enforcing quota controls in Spain or other coun-

tries taking advantage of the UK quotas, with full protection guaranteed for Britain's 12-mile fishing limit.

Fishermen's leaders said last night they feared the deal would have little economic impact, would be hard to enforce and would fail to stop foreign-owned vessels registering in Britain.

The deal, as reported from Amsterdam, comes nowhere near

what fishermen had wanted, which was the removal of existing foreign-owned vessels from the British register and a change to the Treaty of Rome that would allow Britain to ban quota hopping.

Barrie Deas, the chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, said: "As far as we can see, the deal is pretty much what the European Commission offered a year ago."

Jobs pact buries Franco-German monetary row

THE Germans, French and British were claiming victory yesterday after European Union leaders agreed to a compromise that buries the Franco-German quarrel over the future euro with a deal that enshrines employment as a top priority but leaves intact Germany's cherished pact for enforcing monetary rigour.

The end of a week-long Franco-German rift over the so-called stability pact brought relief at the Amsterdam summit. However, there was awareness that little had been done to resolve the clash between the German demand for a single currency driven by fiscal discipline and the French desire, shared by some other EU states, to soften monetary rules to promote economic growth.

The jobs compromise creates a resolution on growth and employment that, among other things, approves the use of limited funds by the European Investment Bank to promote small and medium industry and high technology, on a commercial basis. A special "unemployment summit" is to be held in Luxembourg in September. Twinned with the special growth resolution is the inclusion of an "employment chapter" in the new Union treaty, which commits member states to submitting growth and job-creating policies for collective review.

Germany, which long argued that employment policies were the exclusive responsibility of national governments, softened its opposition to the idea last week in order to appease Lionel Jospin, the



Charles Bremner reports on the latest in a long tradition of summit compromises that have kept the EU on the rails

new French Prime Minister. Yesterday's accord cleared the way for leaders to finish the revamped Maastricht treaty. The terms of the deal enabled the Germans to claim they had prevailed in their insistence that not a comma should be changed in the stability pact.

"The pact is on a safe road," Theo Waigel, the German Finance Minister, said after the leaders endorsed the compromise and also agreed to a

efficient co-operation and the realisation that principle responsibility for employment rests with member states," a British official said.

For the French, M Jospin was able to argue that his show of force over the past week had concentrated the EU's collective mind, putting the need for jobs alongside the drive for fiscal rigour. "This is a significant step forward for France," said M Jospin's spokesman.

The French depicted the deal as fulfilling M Jospin's demand for an "economic pole" to balance the future European Central Bank in the administration of the future currency. President Chirac, who had been accused by M Jospin of allowing the Germans to steamroller him into agreeing the original pact last December, also hailed the accord as good for France. M Jospin's staff, busy scoring points against the presidential team, argued that the Socialist had achieved what the Gaulist had failed. The presidential side said M Jospin had failed to win any real German concession since Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, had vetoed the call for heavy spending on job-making infrastructure projects.

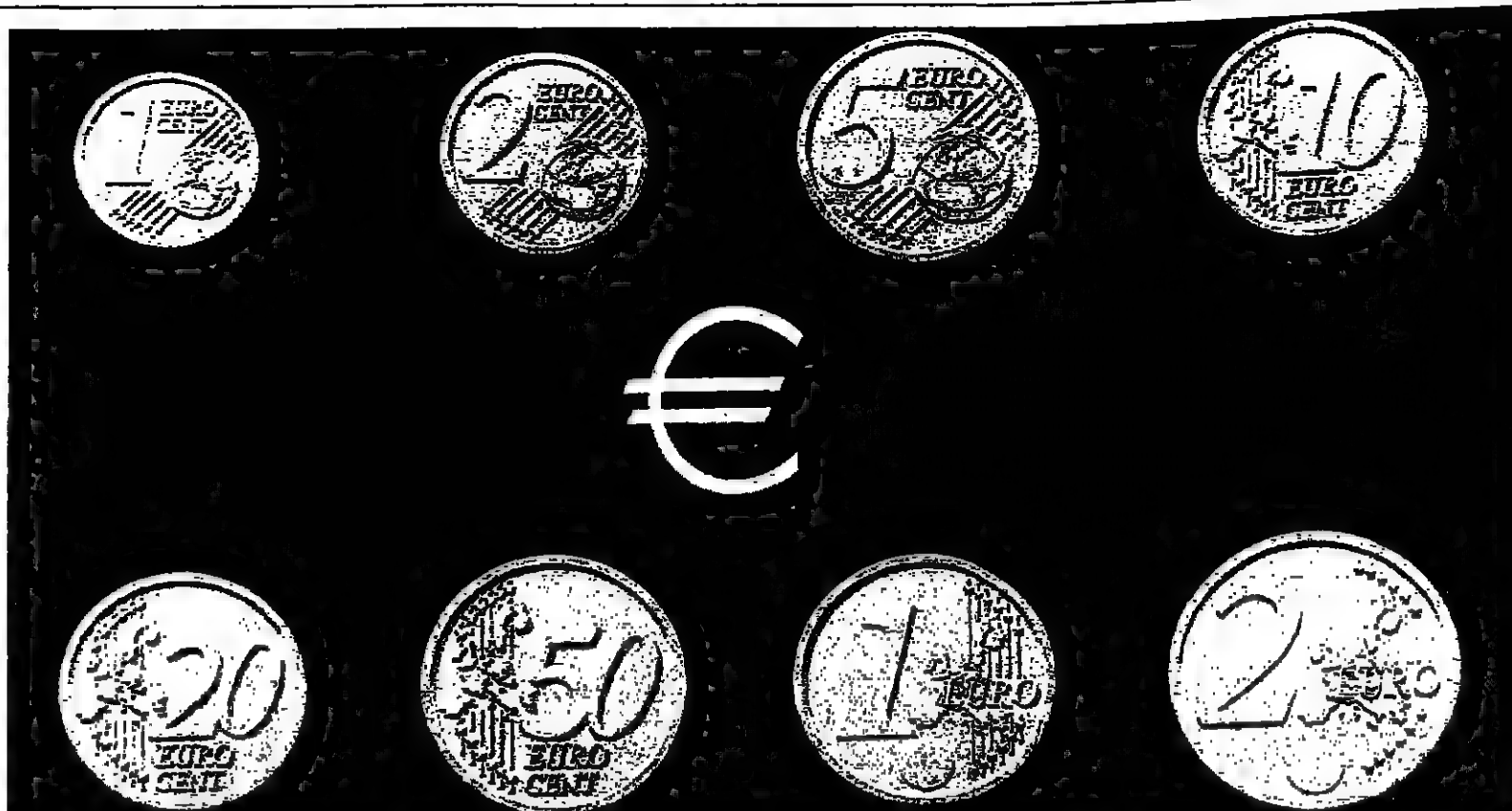
6 The accord clears the way to finish a revamped Maastricht treaty

new exchange-rate mechanism that will apply to currencies outside the zone of the future euro after 1999.

On the British side, Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, was exuding satisfaction over the way in which the compromise accord laid emphasis on British priorities of fostering adaptable labour markets. "It strikes a fair balance between

the French depicted the deal as fulfilling M Jospin's demand for an "economic pole" to balance the future European Central Bank in the administration of the future currency. President Chirac, who had been accused by M Jospin of allowing the Germans to steamroller him into agreeing the original pact last December, also hailed the accord as good for France. M Jospin's staff, busy scoring points against the presidential team, argued that the Socialist had achieved what the Gaulist had failed. The presidential side said M Jospin had failed to win any real German concession since Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, had vetoed the call for heavy spending on job-making infrastructure projects.

Anatole Kaletsky, page 22



The eight euro coins displayed in Amsterdam. They were chosen for easy recognition after the EU rejected a British-style 50p shape

All change as future currency is rolled out

By CHARLES BREMNER

THE EURO

STREAMLINED, go-ahead and dynamic. This is the image of Europe officially conveyed on the coins of a future euro currency, unveiled amid some confusion in an Amsterdam theatre yesterday.

The designs, produced by Luc Luyckx of Belgium, either show Europe's place on the globe or an outline of the future euro currency, unveiled amid some confusion in an Amsterdam theatre yesterday.

ous red plush interior of the Carre theatre, Yves-Thibault de Silguy, the Commissioner for Monetary Affairs, emphasised the unanimous favour which the designs had found in a poll of public opinion, carried out in all member states. "They liked the sense that they convey the modernity of the European Union," he said.

There was little modern about the unveiling, which consisted of M de Silguy turning round the faces of giant lollipop sticks under the vast gold columned proscenium arch of the theatre as a scrum of photographers scrambled for pictures.

All eight coins are round except for the 20-cent piece, which has a "Spanish flower shape". Chosen for easy recognition after the EU rejected the

British-style 50p shape, this consists of a near circle with eight small indentations. Mr Luyckx's designs for the coins, ranging from one euro cent to two euros, seek to avoid the offence given to Greece, Spain and other maritime nations by the euro notes, issued last December. Where those forgot to include whole sets of islands, the EU promises in advance that on the coins "the map of Europe will be modified to ensure that all member states are happy". This was not enough for the Greeks. Unlike the notes, the coins do not bear the word euro or cents in Greek script.

The Greeks were reassured that, if their country ever qualified for the currency, they would have their letters on one side because this is reserved for a national design. In Britain's case, this means if London decided to opt into the euro, the monarch's head

would remain, with the dynamic map and stars featuring on the tails side.

Introducing the currency on the target date of January 1, 2002, presents a monumental job for Europe's mints, banks and makers of vending machines. More than 70 billion coins are now in circulation in the Union. Making enough coins for euro founders will take four years.

The offering from Mr Luyckx, 34, who designs coins for the Belgian Royal Mint, was one of 36 produced by teams of designers from all EU states except Denmark. Only one dispute troubled the technical development. Sweden insisted that nickel alloy not be used because it can cause allergy. The argument faded after Sweden announced that it would stay out. The Belgian designer wins 24,000 euros — equivalent to £17,000 — as a prize.

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PEACE OF MIND AS STANDARD?
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EU told to scrap obsessions and listen to public

FROM PHILIP WEBSTER
POLITICAL EDITOR
IN AMSTERDAM

BLAIR SPEECH

TONY BLAIR yesterday called on the European Union to set its sights on a future beyond Amsterdam in which it would concentrate on the things which mattered to the people rather than the matters that obsessed its leaders.

As street protesters again laid siege to the EU summit here, complaining that Europe had failed over unemployment, the Prime Minister said that the EU had to close the gulf between the public and its governments. "We cannot deny that there is deep disquiet over the way Europe has been running its affairs," he told heads of government.

"When Amsterdam is behind us, we have to address the people's priorities."

Mr Blair's remarks reflected his impatience to move away from Europe's current preoccupation with arcane institutional matters such as "flexibility" and qualified majority voting.

Demonstrators from the Left and Right have staged protests over the past few days over Europe's 18 million unemployed. Mr Blair, in his address to the summit yesterday, welcomed the new focus it had given to jobs and said

that it bode well for the Europe that the Union should be trying to create after Amsterdam.

The key to job creation was employability, education, skills, technology and flexible labour markets. He and Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, spoke out against big injections of EU cash on "supposed" job creation schemes. He added that while there should be more effective co-operation between member states on employment, including the exchanging of best practices, the primary responsibility for employment policy must rest with individual governments. "For my part, it is vital we focus on the importance of skilled workforce and labour markets responsive to economic change," he said.

Mr Blair said the two most important tasks for his Government were raising education standards and reforming the welfare state. That would apply, irrespective of the debate on the single currency. Although he was glad that jobs were at the top of the agenda, there must be no "fudging" of the single currency convergence criteria.



Tony Blair at the Amsterdam summit yesterday

Tudjman keeps power in flawed poll

By TOM WALKER

FRANJO TUDJMAN, who led Croatia to independence from the ruins of Yugoslavia, was yesterday confirmed as President for a second term. With 90 per cent of the vote counted, he had won 61 per cent. His nearest rival, the Social Democrat Zdravko Tomac, gained just 21 per cent.

The turnout was 57 per cent, reflecting the apathy felt by many Croats towards the monolithic powers of Mr Tudjman, a former Titoist general turned historian.

The 75-year-old, jumping on to a table to avoid flag-waving youths, toasted his victory at a

party on the banks of the Sava River, promising a "rich and democratic" future for his nation.

There were few surprises along the campaign trail. Mr Tudjman's Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) is more a national movement than a political party, and the white-haired leader is revered as the father of the nation, the man who united Croatia after centuries of struggle.

Mr Tudjman, more than any other Croat, has articulated the feeling that his 4.7 million people are a bulwark between East and West, the last patch of civilised Christianity before the Balkan

maelstrom begins. It is a philosophy that has won him few friends outside Croatia.

Mr Tomac said the result was a "catastrophe", and blamed the state-controlled media for deliberately downplaying the election.

Voter turnout was particularly low in eastern Slavonia, the UN-protected enclave where 140,000 Serbs still live. In many instances those that did wish to vote found they did not exist on the register.

The ugliness of the Croatian state showed, too, when Vlado Gotovac, the candidate of the Social Liberal Party, was attacked by a deranged Croatian Army captain shouting out

Second World War fascist slogans.

The next general elections are scheduled for 1999, when the Opposition hopes that free market reformers can open up the centre ground of Croatian politics.

□ Zagreb: International election observers said yesterday the Croatian presidential election was free but not fair. "While candidates were able to speak freely, the process leading up to the election was fundamentally flawed," according to Paul Simon, special co-ordinator for the observer mission of the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe. (Reuters)

mafia kills football club chiefs in Russia

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Mafia kills football club chiefs in Russia

FROM RICHARD BEESTON IN MOSCOW

RUSSIA'S sporting world was in a state of shock yesterday after the head of the country's most popular football team was murdered in what police said was a gangland assassination.

Larisa Netchayeva, director-general of the Spartak football club, was shot by an unidentified assailant on Sunday at her dacha in the village of Taratino, near Moscow.

"We found her body and that of her manager at her dacha," said German Isayev, a police investigator. "They were both shot in the head and there was nothing missing, so we can assume that it was a professional killing."

Although police said they were following leads, there was no sign that the authorities would be any more likely to solve this case than the hundreds of other contract murders over the past five years.

In April, Valentin Sych, president of the Russian Ice Hockey Federation, was murdered in similar circumstances when his car was ambushed by a gunman as he returned to Moscow from his country house. No one has been arrested for the killing.

In both cases the shootings were the result of a struggle for control of the more lucrative parts of Russian sports.

Maksim Barvinov, the

crime reporter for the *Daily Kommersant* newspaper, said that Sych was killed in a battle over control of the federation's rights for duty-free imports. "In the case of Netchayeva it is possible that she was a victim of a row involving Spartak's reluctance to sign a television rights deal," he said.

The mob-related violence afflicting Russian sports is just a small part of the extensive network of organised crime, which the police admit they are unable to control. Last week, in a review of the Russian mafia, General Anatoli Kulikov, the Interior Minister, confessed that organised crime had penetrated every aspect of government, including the police and judiciary.

According to his figures, the number of crimes committed by the Russian mafia has jumped 94 per cent during the past five years. There are now an estimated 9,000 criminal groups employing about 100,000 people.

"We have not achieved any meaningful breakthrough in the battle with organised crime," said the ministry in a statement. "Organised criminals have effectively preserved their positions in the most profitable branches of the economy."

In the sporting world, criminals were initially attracted by government tax-free incentives aimed at subsidising Russian sports. Certain sporting associations, such as the National Sports Fund, received licences to import duty-free cigarettes and alcohol. The sporting organisations instantly became a target for the mafia, which quickly took over the business.

Since then, successful sportsmen and teams have also been targeted. Top Russian ice-hockey players, who are often attracted by lucrative contracts to play for the American National Hockey League, have found themselves victims of extortion.



Netchayeva: shot in the head at her dacha



French soldiers board a military transport plane at Brazzaville airport in Congo Brazzaville yesterday for a flight to Chad, after France finished evacuating 5,000 foreigners caught up in the political and ethnic

French troops quit Brazzaville

dispute in its former colony. Paris is pressing ahead with the withdrawal of troops despite an appeal from

President Lisouba to leave troops in the capital as a buffer force between the army and militiamen loyal to the

former military leader, Denis Sassou Nguesso. About 300 soldiers left for Chad and Gabon on 16 flights. Combat units are to stay until the last moment to ensure airport security. (Reuters)

Pupils test meaning of life without a load of old Kant

BY ADAM SAGE IN PARIS AND DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT

FRENCH pupils faced an awkward question as they sat the philosophy paper at the start of the national baccalaureat examination yesterday: "What am I doing here?"

Doubts over the worth of an end-of-school examination described as France's greatest historic monument have prompted a fall in the number of people taking it for the first time since its launch in the early 19th century.

In a sea change for French society, thousands of teenagers decided this year to ignore the "bac" and avoid having to produce essays on such subjects as "Truth, a constraint or a freedom?"

Their move comes amid widespread concern that the heavy academic slant of the bac is unsuited to a world of high technology and high unemployment.

Critics say the examination

— the equivalent of GCSEs and A levels rolled into one — is prestigious but archaic. They claim the 628,112 candidates this year will emerge with a well-honed vision of the truth but deficient job skills, adding that the decision to maintain philosophy as a core subject is an example of France's failure to move with the times.

The baccalaureat has been held up as a blueprint for the future for British education because of its greater breadth when compared to A levels.

Calls in Britain for students with a wider range of skills led to the Government's review of qualifications which reported in March last year.

Sir Ron Dearing, who headed the review, rejected the approach of the International Baccalaureate (IB), a modified version of the French qualification taken at 740 schools around the world, including

33 in Britain. The IB demands study in six areas, five compulsory, but was not thought always to achieve sufficient depth to prepare students for their university courses.

Sir Ron instead proposed the National Advanced Diploma, which drew heavily on the French model. It would involve study to A-level depth in four broadly defined areas: science, modern languages, the arts and social sciences. As in the bac, around half of the diploma would focus on one of the areas, either through an A level or an advanced General National Vocational Qualification.

However, Sir Ron rejected the French attachment to compulsory philosophy in favour of core skills, the demonstration of competence in communication, numeracy and information technology. The review of qualifications has been put back a year.

World Cup ad ban brews sponsor row

BY ADAM SAGE

FRANCE'S new Communist Sports Minister, Marie-George Buffet, is on collision course with football's governing body, Fifa, over a ban on drink advertising during next year's World Cup in France.

Her decision to forbid hoardings promoting alcohol at stadiums during the competition could force companies such as the world's biggest brewer, Anheuser-Busch, to pull out of a lucrative sponsorship deal.

Anheuser, which makes Budweiser, is one of 12 companies that have signed contracts under which they will each pay Fifa more than \$20 million (£12.5 million) for the right to advertise their products at the finals.

The firm, which made profits of \$1.1 billion in 1996, has asked the European Commission to intervene. It has hinted it will encourage other World Cup sponsors to end their

contracts with Fifa unless Mme Buffet backs down.

The Sports Minister is determined to apply a 1991 French public health law, known as the Loi Evin, which restricts alcohol and tobacco advertising in all places and bans it completely at sporting events.

The centre-right former Government, which lost power in parliamentary elections this month, was willing to make an exception for the World Cup. But Mme Buffet has taken a hard line. "I am going to talk about this with the World Cup organising committee, but no one can be more important than the laws of the French Republic."

The Loi Evin was also designed to stop people smoking in public places, although the French authorities have made no more than a half-hearted attempt to enforce this aspect of the law.

WORLD SUMMARY

Africa deal to protect elephants

Harare: Southern African states yesterday proposed a compromise under which government stocks of African ivory would be bought by Western donor agencies to pay for an international trust fund to finance the protection of the African elephant (Jan Raath writes).

The move was announced on the eve of a debate today at the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (Cites) meeting here, when members are due to vote on proposals by Zimbabwe, Namibia and Botswana to be able to sell tusks from their stocks to Japan.

Refugee fears

London: The United Nations refugee agency is "extremely concerned" that more than 200,000 refugees from Rwanda and Burundi are still missing in the Democratic Republic of Congo, a senior agency official said. "There may have been one of the largest losses of refugee life in recent times in that area, through factors including human rights violations," said Denis McNamara. (AP)

Cairo's captives

Cairo: Egypt is holding more than 6,700 political prisoners, mainly Islamists, and many have not been tried, the Egyptian Organisation of Human Rights said. The group's annual report said that 7,891 prisoners were being detained without trial at the Interior Ministry's request. Their detention had been renewed over the past five years on the pretext that they were involved in terrorism. (AFP)

Free as a bird

Castaic, California: A parrot, trying to break a distance record, landed in a prison field and was surrounded by police, one with his gun drawn. A Los Angeles County sheriff's special weapons team spotted Thomas Truax circling a prison, trying to find an updraft, and trailed him. Satisfied he was not part of some sort of jail break, the officers gave him a lift to a waiting friend. (AP)

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30TH ANNIVERSARY SALE OFFERS? THAT'LL BE THE DAEWOO.

The young doctor with an old woman's disease

At 19, Anna Peckham discovered that years of anorexia had left her with osteoporosis. Heidi Kingstone reports

Sheer determination often sets anorexics apart. At the onset of their illness, it is what drives them to resist the constant craving for food; but it is also what gives them the strength to recover — the willpower needed to defeat the overwhelming desire not to eat. Anorexics are often bright and tenacious characters — high achievers, perfectionists — and Anna Peckham fits that description perfectly. Now 26, she has recently qualified as a doctor. But at 19, as a result of her long struggle with anorexia, she had gone through the menopause, developed osteoporosis and lost two inches in height.

At 15, Anna stood 5ft 11½ in tall and weighed 10st 7lb. Preparing for the summer holidays, she decided to shed some weight. It was the beginning of a terrifying descent. At 18, her weight had dropped to less than 6st, and at her lowest point, she weighed just over 5st. By the time she was 19, Anna no longer towered over her three younger sisters, and her once perfectly proportioned body was squat from neck to waist.

And the cost was not just physical. For two years, while her contemporaries were studying for their GCSEs, Anna was ricocheting between High Wycombe high school and a hospital psychiatric ward.

At school, acquaintances would comment on her thinness, and close friends talked to Anna of their concern. But as she walked down the school corridors, her trademark scarf wrapped around her neck, the hardworking teenager thought she looked pretty good. Anna liked herself long and lean. It was a portrait by a classmate that finally brought home what was happening to her: a stick person drawing, scarf included, with the word "Anna-rexia" scrawled underneath. "I thought 'If that's what they think of me, then perhaps I am fooling myself.'"

The dieting that had started quite innocently was out of control. About five months after Anna first began her diet, her mother insisted that she see a doctor, after discovering that her

daughter's periods had ceased. By then Anna weighed 9st 7lb, but she assured her mother that she was absolutely fine, blaming the stress of exams and schoolwork. Her mother insisted, however, and at their GP's recommendation, Anna began to see a psychiatrist. At home, the arguments over food intensified. Anna's eating patterns were scrutinised. Hungry and cold, surviving on a diet of apples and black coffee, she continued to lose weight. Aged 12, Anna had decided that she would become a doctor. But at 18, the future looked bleak. Weak and skeletal, she was banned from school.

By then, she had spent seven months in an adolescent psychiatric ward. There, she had been put on a high-calorie diet, combined with bed rest, to encourage rapid weight gain. The rewards for eating would be freedom and a return to school. In those seven months she gained 3st. But confined to the ward, she also learnt the tricks of a serious anorexic — laxatives, vomiting.

"After that first hospital stay I thought I would be cured. But as soon as I left, the weight started to fall off me. In hospital I had to make progress, because what I ate was controlled by the staff. Outside, the control was mine. I had spent months being practically force-fed, and I had no idea how much I should be eating."

As Anna was to discover, recovery from anorexia is a slow, painful process. "I found it hard, because I thought 'Everyone is watching me, watching how much I'm eating, if I'm putting on weight or not'."

"I got so weak that I didn't have the strength to carry my textbooks. Getting up from the chair took a lot of thought and effort. I knew I was very ill at this stage, but I also knew I was too ill to do anything about it. I realised that this was as low as I could go."

"Then someone reported that they had seen me stumble at the top of the stairs and nearly faint. I realised that it wasn't true, although I knew that it was. The headmistress banned me and I was told that I couldn't return until I

weighed 7st 7lb. I wondered if I would ever take my A levels."

At 19, still battling to regain control of her weight, but as determined as ever to realise her ambition to become a doctor, Anna was combining her A-level studies with work in an old people's home. Back pain was a hazard of the job — the result of lifting patients. Her occasional twinges concerned Anna, but it was one spasm that revealed the extent of the damage she had inflicted on herself.

"One morning, I felt this excruciating pain in my back that I have never felt before or since. It shot right down my back and I fell to the floor. I screamed to my dad that I needed help, then crawled along the landing back to bed. It was terrifying because I couldn't stand up. We called the GP because we thought it was probably just a slipped disc."

The doctor confirmed the diagnosis, and prescribed bed rest, but when she started walking again, Anna's mother, a former nurse, noticed that her statuesque eldest daughter was no longer taller than her sisters. X-rays and a bone density scan confirmed that Anna was suffering from osteoporosis. A young woman, with a bright future, she now had an old woman's disease.

"It was a horrendous time for me. I realised I had wasted part of my life, and that if I didn't want the rest of it to pass me by, I had to do something."

Paradoxically, this was the trigger she had needed to defeat her anorexia and gain the longed-for place at medical school in Liverpool. Exercise, milk, which she hates, and a high-dose oestrogen producing pill increased her bone density, and Anna now finds that the effect of osteoporosis on her daily life on the wards is minimal.

Now a healthy 10st 7lb, she has just returned from cycling around Ireland, and in August, she will start a six-month stint in the psychiatric unit of Liverpool's North Mersey Community NHS Trust. "One of the areas I might like to specialise in is psychiatry," she says, "because I think I could bring something special with me."

● The National Osteoporosis Society Helpline, 01761 472721

● National Osteoporosis Week begins on Monday



"I knew I was very ill, but I also knew I was too ill to do anything about it. I realised that this was as low as I could go"

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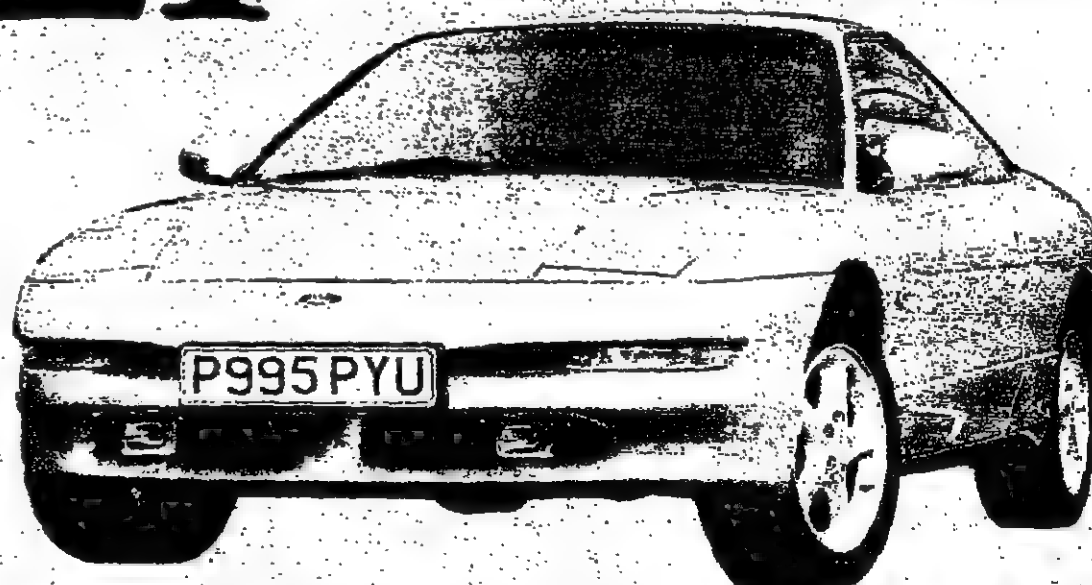
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CHANGING TIMES

High risks for high rollers

A new, sophisticated and, many claim, more exciting form of gambling has emerged from the City dealing rooms. Jason Cowley investigates

The British have always loved a flutter and the glorious sporting week of Royal Ascot and the Lord's Test match is traditionally one in which vast sums of money are spent on bets. This year, though, not all of it will be passed over the counter in the smoke-filled atmosphere of the local bookmakers. For a new, more sophisticated form of gambling has emerged — especially among the affluent young, for whom spread betting offers a charge of excitement that conventional betting cannot match.

Perhaps the most remarkable recent manifestation of spread betting came on the night of the general election, when thousands of people

across the country picked up the phone and started gambling on the scale of the Government's humiliation. The leading spread-betting firms had experienced hectic nights before, notably during England's anguished Euro '96 semi-final against Germany, but nothing prepared them for what happened on election night. Throughout that night and into the early hours of the following morning, as Labour's triumph turned the election map of Britain from blue to red, the offices of IG Index and its main rival, City Index, recalled City dealing rooms at their most frenetic: phone lines were jammed, computers froze through information overload, and market makers frantically revised positions in response to each new Labour gain.

"What happened was phenomenal: we were literally taking thousands of bets," says Ian Jenkins of IG Index, the pioneering spread-betting firm established in 1976. "The office was as busy as any City trading room can get. It was like a mini Black Wednesday."

What happened on election night would have been unthinkable a decade ago. For spread betting, once one of the

best-kept secrets in the City, is the fastest-growing form of gambling in the country. Part of the attraction of spread betting is its flexibility: from the end of a telephone line you can bet on almost anything from the closing position of the FTSE-100 on a particular date to the finishing position of Persian Punch, the favourite for the Ascot Gold Cup on Thursday, or the number of corners in a football match. And unlike traditional bookmakers, who refuse to take bets once an event has started, a spread bet can be continually updated. There is an edge of danger, too: unlike fixed-odds betting, there is no limit to the extent of potential winnings — or losses.

Bets are placed by telephone and on account with one of the specialist companies — IG, City, Sporting Index — or with the national bookmakers that have opened specialist divisions in the past two years. The industry is regulated by the Securities and Investment Board and has similarities with futures trading, where prices are perpetually changing to reflect market fluctuations. Spread bets, unlike traditional investments, are exempt from income tax and capital gains tax.

Graham Sharpe of William Hill explains how the concept works: "It is simple enough: the market maker (or bookmaker) quotes you a position or 'spread' on the outcome of a future issue or event, such as the number of seats Labour will win, or how many goals Alan Shearer will score next season. So the position for Shearer might be offered as a spread of, say, 24 to 28 goals. The punter then backs his judgment against that of the market maker by deciding on which side of the position to bet and at what stake. The difference between the two ends of the position — 24-28 — is the spread."

Spread betting has long been popular in the City, where brokers once gambled



Vast amounts of money are traditionally spent on betting at Ascot but gamblers are expected to be even more active this year as the public's fascination with spread betting increases

privately on the price of soya beans or pork bellies. "Spread betting is nothing more complicated than speculation using futures contracts," says Ian Jenkins of IG Index. "We launched in the Seventies when we devised a way of buying and selling the price of gold without actually holding it. In the Eighties, as indices became more important, we introduced spread betting on the movements on the FTSE, the Nikkei and Dow Jones. The market really took off with the growth of sport spread betting in the early Nineties."

Michael Paterson, a former stockbroker-turned-restaurantier, profits to the tune of £25,000 a year from spread betting. He is attracted by the flexibility of the system and the fact that, unlike the traditional fixed-odds bet, he is not locked into a position. He can recast or "close down" a bet depending on circumstances and on whether he wishes to maximise profits or diminish losses. He says, "The smart player gets in and out of the market at the right time. So,

for example, if I am bullish on the FTSE-100 and buy the September position at, say, £4,600, and it rises to £4,700 in August, where I find the risk-reward ratio less attractive, I can sell at a profit before the maturity of the contract in September. Similarly, I can cut my losses or double up my position if markets move against me."

Spread-betting firms have been called "blue chip casinos", but Mr Paterson says there is risk in all aspects of life. "Life is a gamble — the job you do; the house you buy and the way you finance it; even the wife you choose. An honest person recognises this."

Yet spread betting can be a dangerous, consuming hobby because it demands imagination, talent and specialist knowledge to do well. James Willoughby, 25, a racing journalist and combative gambler, converted to spread betting three years ago. He was confident that, as a racing insider, he could outwit the market makers in the City. He liked, too, the edge of danger, never knowing how much he might win or lose.

"I knew the discipline had grown up in the City and centred on other sports, such as football and cricket, so I reasoned that they might not be so expert on racing," he says. "What also inspired me

to succeed was when I met some of the market makers — a bunch of more smug, self-satisfied egomaniacs you would have to go a long way to find. The thought of landing a blow on one of them really got me up."

Willoughby enjoyed early success. "I found them easy to beat on National Hunt racing to start with but, like many novices, I got overconfident and burnt my fingers badly at the [1995] Cheltenham Festival when Alderbrook won the Champion Hurdle. It cost me £3,000, as I'd sold him heavily, thinking that he had been hyped up. My bets are usually in the region of £50 to £100; my biggest ever was £400. So to lose £3,000 in one hit was a real kick in the teeth. I wouldn't actually put anybody off having a spread bet, just warn them to be aware of the pitfalls."

John Markham, 32, who is used to working the money markets at Credit Suisse is another disappointed spread bettor. Like many in the City,

he began dabbling privately among friends, gambling on major sporting events and on forward markets in currencies. He and his friends would set their own spreads and act as their own bookmakers, so profits were necessarily small, restricted by minimum and maximum stakes. In the end, tempted by the prospect of making what he calls "serious money" he opened a couple of accounts.

"I loved the thrill of spread betting, especially the fact that you can close or open a bet at any time, but I never really made any money from it. The market makers are too canny. I also took a bad hit a couple of years ago when Brian Lara achieved his world record Test score of 375 runs. I had backed him to score under 100."

"I realise now that spread betting is the triumph of the trivial. I have found more sensible ways to invest my money."

Mr Markham is not alone in his doubts. Even bookmakers are concerned that the gullible are being drawn in by the glamour and buzz of spread betting without fully

understanding how the concept works. Gamblers Anonymous reports a disturbing rise in spread-betting victims, many of whom have a background in finance.

"The introduction of the National Lottery has turned the country into a nation of gamblers," says a spokesman for Gamblers Anonymous. "And the worrying growth in spread betting appears to reflect this."

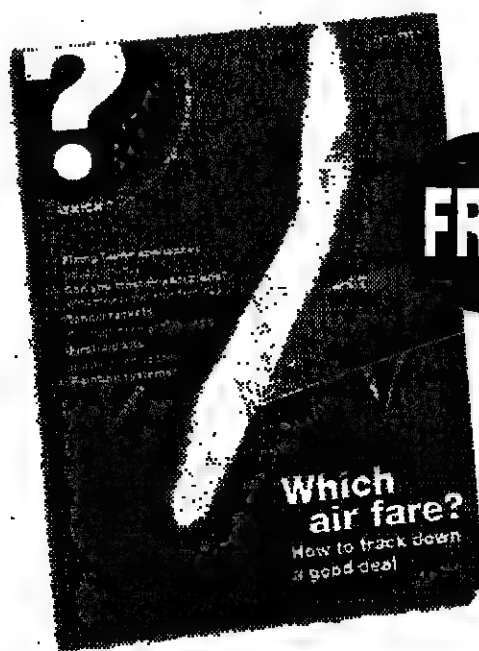
There is surprising agreement at William Hill. "I prefer fixed-odds betting because you know exactly how much you

are going to lose," says Graham Sharpe. "That's not the case with spread betting, where you are taking a much bigger risk. When you bet on a horse and it falls, you only want to know how much you have lost. You don't want to find out you have to stump up even more money because it fell at the first."

He pauses, then continues with a warning: "My advice to any potential spread bettor is: don't do it unless you are already an experienced gambler. The downside is too great."

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Swinging left: Peter Snow

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John Markham, 32, who is used to working the money markets at Credit Suisse is another disappointed spread bettor. Like many in the City,

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BEETHOVEN'S *EROICA* VARIATIONS, OP 35
Reviewed by Miles Donat

In October, 1802 Beethoven offered the publishers Breitkopf and Härtel two sets of piano variations. Both, he assured them, were written "in a wholly new style, and each in an entirely different way."

One of the works was the *Eroica Variations*, so called because Beethoven later used their theme for his Third Symphony as well as for the finale of his ballet music, *The Creatures of Prometheus*.

Beethoven's claim as to the novelty of these variation works was justified. The *Eroica* set has one of the most bizarre beginnings he ever conceived, with just the theme's skeletal bass-line on its own. Not until what is effectively the fourth variation do we get to hear the tune. The opening needs to establish a certain atmosphere of mystery, so it is no good pecking at it the way Glenn Gould does on a reissue from Sony. Much more successful is Gould's fellow Canadian Louis Lortie (Chandos). His is always a very musical performance, but ultimately just a little bland.

The *Variations* have no change of tempo indicated until you reach variation 15. That does not mean there is no scope for flexibility, but to pause between each variation and then set off at a radically different speed, as Claudio Arrau does, is to risk losing sight of the work's large-scale structure. One pianist who brings out the music's continuity and wit is Alfred Brendel (Philips). Brendel is impressive, too, in the slow 14th variation. But no one plays this as beautifully as Artur Schnabel in a reissue of a 1938 recording (Pearl). Alas, a plethora of wrong notes elsewhere will rule his performance out for many.

No less eloquent than Schnabel is his pupil Clifford Curzon, beautifully recorded in the Malings at Snape. In the closing pages Curzon's grace and elegance are in a class of their own. His, then, is my final recommendation. It comes at mid-price (DECCA 452 302-2, £9.99), together with another of Beethoven's grand E flat masterpieces, the *Emperor Concerto*.

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● Next Saturday on Radio 3 (9am): Fischer-Dieskau survey

There is no stopping Tim Smit on the Eden Project. "It's the horticultural answer to the Taj Mahal or the Sydney Opera House. It will knock your socks off and anyone within 200 miles will have to come and see it," he says.

The project is to build the largest hothouse in the world, 1,000 metres long, snaking around a disused Cornish clay pit near St Austell. The Millennium Commission has offered £37 million and with a further £25 million promised, Smit is close to the £74 million target.

He and his co-founder, Jonathan Ball, have won this massive backing on the strength of the "lost gardens of Heligan", a recreated historic garden, which is attracting 300,000 visitors a year. To be sure of a winning team, they took on all the consultants who worked on the Channel Tunnel terminal at Waterloo, beginning with Nicholas Grimshaw as architect and Anthony Hunt as engineer.

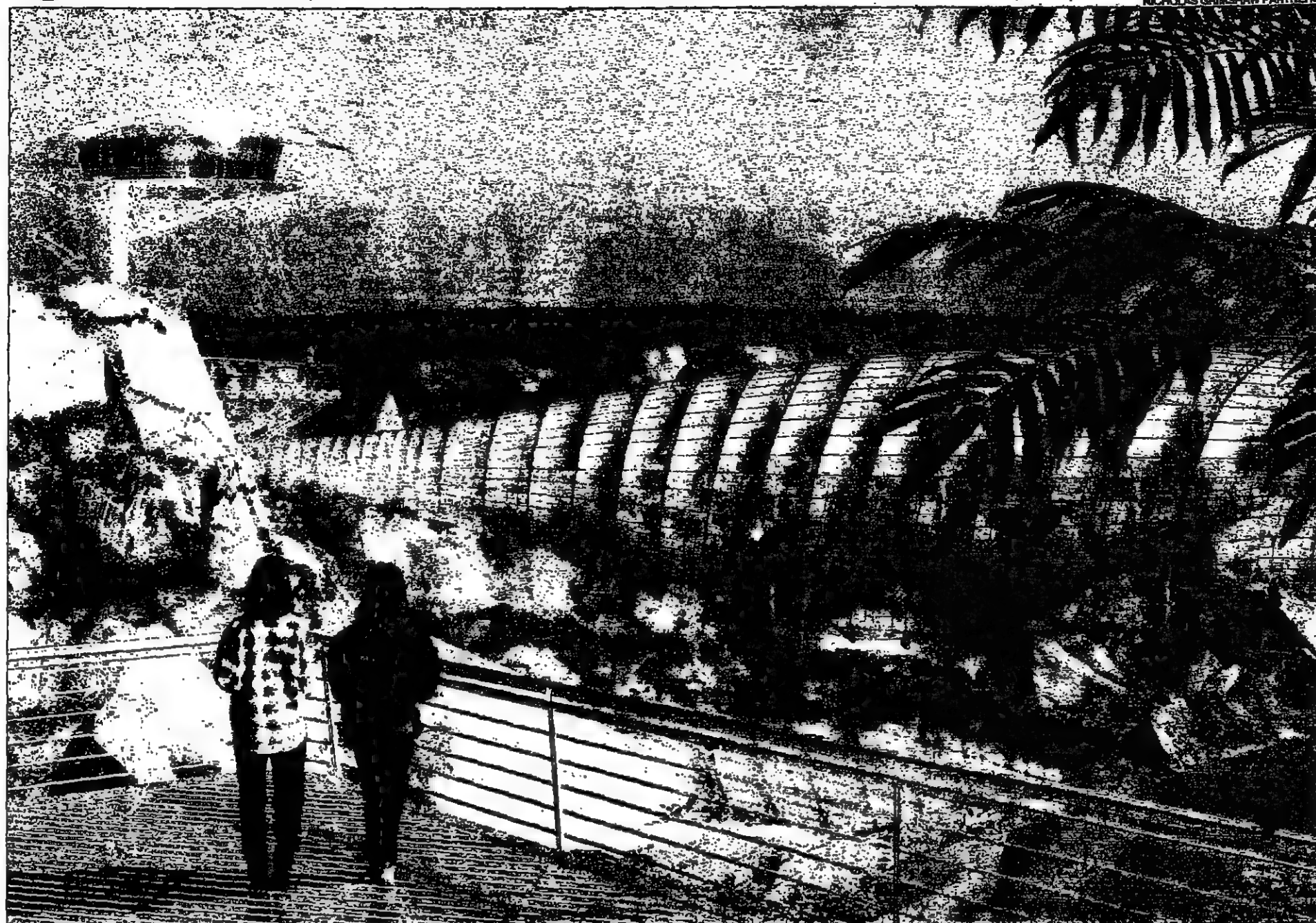
Waterloo's snaking glass roof has been adapted to the more complex contours of the clay pit. Grimshaw explains: "It's positively colonic, narrowing to a defile, then rising to 300ft to accommodate tropical trees."

For the roof, he is exploring a covering of lightweight inflated transparent cushions, which use the sun to operate tiny fans to keep them up. "Our aim is to create the total responsive skin of the 21st century, which will stay warm in winter and never overheat in summer," he says.

Phase one consists of two major "biomes", devoted to the humid tropics and Mediterranean-type climates around the world. These will be planted with more than 10,000 species, varieties and cultivars. Each will be split into three areas: wild Arcadia, primitive agriculture and cornucopia, showing how science transforms cultivation.

"We will be having what we call Day One plants for theatrical effect backed up by a large propagation programme," says Smit. They have purchased a large nursery off site, ensuring that disease problems are spotted in advance.

Disused clay pits suggest a barren moonscape, but Reading University has told Smit that by adding "25 per cent loam-type material" they can create a fertile soil. Surprising-



The world's largest hothouse? An artist's impression shows the Eden Project, which will glass over an entire Cornish clay pit, creating Mediterranean and tropical climates

ly, in drought-prone Cornwall water is not a problem. "We are 30ft below the water table, and 80 per cent of our water needs will be met by rainwater running off the roof."

Come the millennium the question is whether the proverbial apple will be awarded to Cornwall or to the new National Botanic Garden of Wales, where Sir Norman Foster is designing a rival futuristic glasshouse, looking like a biosphere to nurture life on Mars. It is intended to contain the greatest collection

of Mediterranean flowers and flowering shrubs the world has seen, and bring together flora from parallel climates in Chile, California and Africa.

Professor Charles Stirton, the director, says: "This will be the most beautifully planned glasshouse in the world, flowering in and out of season. Mediterranean climates represent 1.7 per cent of the Earth's surface but are host to 20 per cent of the plant species. A century ago, plant hunters would simply have been sent out into the wild to search for

seeds and specimens. We will work closely with national botanic institutions. We would also seek to grow rare species under licence and sell them to gardeners."

The new botanic garden will be in the grounds of a vanished Georgian mansion, Middleton Hall, near Carmarthen. Hunt, who is once again the engineer, explains: "The shape is a perfect toroid, that's a slice of the outside of a doughnut." The huge expanse of glass poses the risk of scorched leaves, so there will

be an elaborate system of automated shades. As well as collecting its own water, the garden will grow fuel for heating in coppices around the estate. Sewage will be recycled through reed beds and run through a willow plantation to leave water clear enough to return to nearby streams. The Millennium Commission is providing £22 million.

With all this happening, Kew could hardly be left behind. So the Royal Botanic Gardens is planning its own £75 million millennium seed

bank at Wakehurst in Sussex, aiming to provide a safe future for 25,000 species of flowering plants, or 10 per cent of the world's flora, as well as all the flowering plants native to the UK. This is based on predictions that a quarter of the world's 250,000 species of flowering plant may become extinct over the next 50 years.

Simon Linington, the manager of Kew's existing small seed bank, explains: "There are major seed banks for staple food crops but none for wild plants. We will begin

with the world's dry lands, which are under pressure from overgrazing and overpopulation. We will provide help with problems like seed dormancy. Our existing seed stock list already goes to 100 countries."

Once collected, seeds are dried and kept at temperatures of down to -40C. That allows them to be stored for more than 200 years without losing their regeneration potential. Clearly this is one millennium project designed to last for centuries.

Richard Morrison has the results of *The Times*/Junior Prom competition

Winners, winners, everywhere...

Appropriately enough we were flooded with entries. The *Times*'s "Wet Wet Wet" competition - for schools to win 500 free tickets, plus travel costs, to the Junior Prom at the Albert Hall on September 8 - required children under 15 years old to write the words of a modern sea-song. The response was fantastic. To the thousands of children who took part - thank you. I hope you had as much fun writing your waterlogged epics as we had reading them.

There were lots of rides on dolphins' backs (clearly No 1 fantasy among nine-year-olds this year), a fair number of our old friends the mermaids popping up, and some ferocious tales of lashing seas. Ferries and fishermen featured strongly, of course. But so also did some

stunning descriptions of the underwater kingdom.

One budding Herman Melville bravely decided to tell the story of an entire whaling expedition in 20 lines. But we also loved the poem which suggested that we try tickling a whale's tummy. It sounds dangerous, but fun.

And of course there were plenty of ecological disaster-poems. We particularly admired the angry shanty that described all the sea creatures rising up and exacting a terrible revenge on us, the selfish human race. Its title? *Scales of Justice*, naturally.

In the end, we selected 12 schools to share our 500 free tickets to the Junior Prom. They are listed below, and they will be contacted directly by the BBC Proms Office about arrangements for the great event on September 8.

Four young poets stand out in particular. Eight-year-old Harriet Swindall, from Sheen Mount Primary School in London, wrote a delightfully alliterative couple of verses called *Under the Sea and Over the Sea*. From St John's Primary School in Staffordshire, Benjamin Nicholls supplied not only the words but a splendidly catchy tune and piano accompaniment for his *Fisherman's Song* - a remarkably polished effort for a nine-year-old.

Leah Kirby, aged 10, from Fitzherbert School in Derbyshire, produced a very cautionary tale (for fish at least) about a know-all fish, a nice juicy worm and a fatal miscalculation. And finally there was 12-year-old Holly Morgenroth from St Margaret's School in Exeter. Her jolly song, *The Underwater Wardrobe*, sim-

ply made us laugh a lot. We reproduce it here. And we hope that, on September 8, one of these four fine new sea-songs will be given its first performance at the Proms!

HOLLY'S SEA-SONG

THE UNDERWATER WARDROBE by Holly Morgenroth

The octopus has many legs
She gets them tied in knots,
And must get through no end of weed
Knitting slimy socks.

She sits upon a cushion star
And sleeps in an oyster shell.
The jellyfish hat upon her head
Suits her very well.

She wears a frilly seaweed gown
And when she goes out for fun
She carries a manta ray,
To shade her from the midday sun.

She rides upon a seahorse
And writes her letters in ink.
She eats her meals off a flatfish dish
With lobster juice to drink.

She doesn't go up to the surface
For fear of getting spots,
So she stays down deep
Amongst the craggy rocks!

A mirror she stole from a mermaid
She keeps in a golden chest.
It tells her she always looks just fine
And at her very best!

WINNING SCHOOLS: Ballysally Primary (Coleraine), Barn Street County Primary (Blaverford West), Blackboys (Uckfield), Fitzherbert (Fen-

ny Bentley, Derby), Greenbank (Cheddle Hulme), Hotwells Primary (Bristol), Kingsley (Leamington Spa), St John's Primary (Keele,

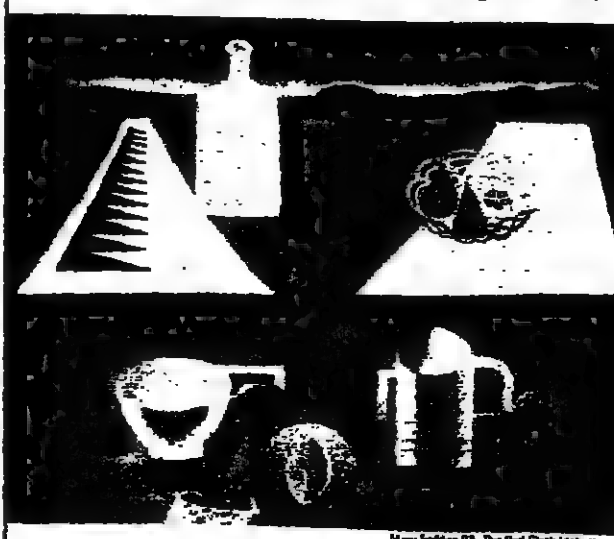
Staffs), St Margaret's (Exeter), Sheen Mount (East Sheen), Stoke by Nayland (Colchester), Wond Ley Primary (Stowmarket).

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■ VISUAL ART 1

British triumphs
in Venice: Rachel
Whiteread is
fêted for a
typically bold
installation ...

■ VISUAL ART 2

... and there is
acclaim, too, for
Douglas Gordon,
who revisits
a gruesome
medical experiment

THE TIMES
ARTS

■ VISUAL ART 3

Young women
artists go on
show at *Some
Kind of Heaven*
in the South
London Gallery

■ TOMORROW

How the Hayward
Gallery will
celebrate the art,
music and writing
of the Harlem
Renaissance

Death still fashionable in Venice

VISUAL ART: The artists at this year's Venice Biennale span a wide age range, but a common theme unites young and old. Richard Cork reports

Future. Present. Past: the theme of the 47th Venice Biennale is broad enough to embrace virtually anything submitted by the contributing countries. So the artists chosen for the national pavilions in the Castello Gardens span an unusually wide age range. At one extreme we find Robert Colescott, a senior American painter who studied under Leger way back in 1949. And at the other, Rachel Whiteread, the young British sculptor who left art school only a decade ago and is one of three British artists to win a prize at this year's Biennale. With astonishing assurance, she has transformed the British Pavilion into the ideal showcase for her single-minded, powerful and continually developing talent.

The outcome is even more impressive than I had expected. In the first room, Whiteread's ability to make a presence out of absence, give emptiness solid form and invest ordinary objects with an unforced grandeur is given imposing form in a large, white plaster sculpture called *Ten Tables*. Scarred, cracked and mottled, it has a stillness which reminded me of Brancusi's *Table of Silence* in Romania. But Whiteread's secular Last Supper, cast from the spaces underneath the furniture, is an unmistakably individual achievement.

The great excitement of her other rooms lies in the gradual unfolding of Whiteread's more sensuous side. A rich, gleaming resin table and chair are juxtaposed with a cream mattress. A deep orange bath occupies a ceremonial chamber of its own, and the main gallery at the back is enlivened by a magisterial floor-piece. The Venetian sun falls straight on to its dark blocks of resin, revealing a surprising range of colours inside them. Although Whiteread's art is elegiac, and bound up with memorialising, her preoccupation with death is conveyed with great serenity and warmth. At the age of only 34, she can already be counted among the most formidable artists at work anywhere in the world. The Biennale jury was right to give her a Best Young Artist award.

Her pavilion is surrounded by disappointing neighbours. Fabrice Hybert's French Pavilion, decked out like a tent, is filled with irritating videos and arbitrary bric-a-brac. Its deliberate disorder contrasts with the emptiness of the German Pavilion, where Gerhard Merz's light sculpture is installed perversely high on the wall. His fastidious coolness could hardly be further

THE WINNERS

Golden Lion
Agnes Martin
Emilio Vedova
Marina Abramovic
Gerhard Richter

Best Young Artist
Rachel Whiteread
Douglas Gordon
Pipilotti Rist

Illycafe Award (most promising young artist)
Sam Taylor-Wood

Best Pavilion
France

removed from the crowded images installed by Katharina Sieverding in the side rooms, where her enigmatic forms convey a sombre mood.

So it is a relief to find in the Canadian Pavilion an entertaining film where Rodney Graham, arrayed in 18th-century clothes, finds himself stranded like Robinson Crusoe on an idyllic desert island. Coconuts knock him unconscious and the efforts of a squawking parrot fail to revive him. But for all its gentle wit, the film seems a lightweight affair.

‘The Spanish Pavilion is dominated by a garotte’

This is a multimedia Biennale, and few pavilions are devoted to painters. Abstraction at its most severe reigns in the Swiss Pavilion, where Helmut Federle fills his main space with brooding, minimal canvases. He strives for a pared-down, almost glacial essence, whereas Robert Colescott's large, figurative canvases in the American Pavilion present an angry, hectic and often apocalyptic vision. He sees the US as an emergency room in an over-stretched hospital. Racism is his principal concern, and nobody can doubt the sincerity of his moral disquiet. But his paintings, seen en masse, become cluttered and repetitive.

They suffer from the weariness of stridency also to be found in the Russian Pavilion. It is devoid of the ability to surprise which animates Joan Brossa's work in the lively Spanish Pavilion. Insects swarm over one colossal white wall, but his most macabre room is dominated by an instrument of execution. Until Spain abolished the death penalty in 1974, this horrible *garrote vil* was regularly used. The neck-clamped victim was killed from behind by a spine-snapping device, and Brossa

compounds our disquiet by laying out an elaborate dinner table with silver candlesticks for the prisoner's final meal.

But at least Brossa seasons his gruesomeness with black humour. In the main pavilion, Marina Abramovic provides no such relief. Seated in a darkened room, she is surrounded by a heap of blood-smeared, stinking bones. For several hours each day Abramovic stays in this charnel house, moaning and washing a large bone propped like a baby on her lap. She calls this unnerving and repellent performance *Balkan Baroque*. Originally intended for the Yugoslav Pavilion, it was rejected by commissioners who found it too strong to stomach.

By no means everything in the main pavilion is so mortifying. Agnes Martin shows some surprisingly seductive stripe paintings, and Tony Cragg's three monumental sculptures are typically inventive. Roy Lichtenstein also stands out, with a roomful of bold and witty aluminium sculptures in hard, shiny colour. But even though Gerhard Richter and Annette Messager also make powerful contributions, long-established reputations are celebrated here. For younger artists, we must visit the nearby Arsenal.

The lofty, multi-columned interior starts predictably, with a glistening toy-like sculpture by Jeff Koons positioned appropriately near the gallery shop. Some exhibits are merely playful, like Bertrand Lavier's giant yellow Caterpillar truck festooned with Christmas-tree decorations. Others are guilty of grandiosity, like the portentous row of white crosses installed by Robert Longo. But some of the younger participants are far more rewarding. Juan Muñoz arrests attention with his cluster of grey-painted, bald oriental men, smiling despite their leg braces and unaccountable lack of feet.

Two women artists prove outstanding too. Sam Taylor-Wood's three-screen video installation is set out in a smart restaurant, where the diners' pleasure provides an ironic foil for the distress of one young woman. Close-ups concentrate on her anguished face, and the restless hand-gestures of the man who seems to be causing her so much unhappiness. Taylor-Wood ensures that sounds of laughter, clattering cutlery and the generalised din of other people's chatter is heard more clearly than anything this couple say to each other. But the sense of crisis in their relationship is vividly conveyed.

So is the vitality and glee of the young woman in Pipilotti Rist's video work. While a contented humming fills the soundtrack, she walks down a street aiming a red-hot poker flower at the windows of parked cars. Her improvised weapon must contain a hidden weight, for it smashes the glass every time. She reacts with relish, and nothing can stop her triumphant, ecstatic progress. A passing policeman simply salutes her and walks on, while the flower-filled fields on a neighbouring screen seem to applaud her



Venice winner Rachel Whiteread, with *Untitled (Paperbacks)*: at 34 she is one of the world's most formidable artists

attack on the polluting vehicles.

If a "green" message underlies Rist's exhibit, she conveys it with irresistible flair and wit. Douglas Gordon, another British winner at this year's Biennale, also makes an impact. For 30 seconds his room is completely dark, and then a single light bulb suddenly illuminates a text on the wall. It describes how, in 1905, a French doctor tried to communicate with a condemned man's severed head immediately after a guillotine execution. The face showed definite signs of response for half a minute, the amount of time Gordon allows us before the light is switched off again. We stand there, waiting to finish reading and nervously finding that our own imaginations visualise the doctor's alarming experiment in the gloom. This fascination with mortality, which also unites the otherwise very different work of Joan Brossa and Rachel Whiteread, is the most potent theme running through the entire Biennale.

In Ireland's contribution, superbly displayed in the Galleria Nuova Icons on the Giudecca, Alastair MacLennan has created a chilling, clinical installation. The papered walls, so reminiscent of white tiles in a mortuary, turn out to be hung with the names of people who have been killed in the recent Irish troubles. While unseen voices solemnly

read them all out, we find ourselves confronting a rough-hewn sculpture of wood and earth, along with an empty wheelchair waiting for its next maimed occupant.

Anselm Kiefer's exhibition ensures that the elegiac mood is sustained. Displayed with great theatrical flair at the Museo Correr, it begins with two of his largest recent paintings. While one evokes the crumbling structure of a stepped Mayan temple, where sacrificial rituals were once staged, the other fills the sky above an immense furrowed field with sunflower seeds. While symbolising renewal, they also threaten to choke the picture with their swarming blackness; upstairs, the rest of Kiefer's powerful exhibition reveals how he has explored this ambiguity for more than 20 years. Burnt landscapes from the 1970s testify to his vision of Germany as a country battered by its own traumatic history. But the strong outlines of a painter's palette are roughly brushed over some of these harrowing scenes. Kiefer's determination to make an eloquent art from the horror of his nation's tragedy cannot be doubted.

In the end, the sense of a profoundly troubled legacy from the past dominates this year's Biennale. The present and the future are both overshadowed, and the predominance of older artists means that we learn disappointingly little about the new, emergent generation.

But there are unexpected pleasures to be found in a retrospective event, not least at the Peggy Guggenheim Collection, where a Stuart Davis exhibition is beautifully installed. Although his work cannot be found in British public collections, he is a major American painter. After grasping the significance of Cubism, he abandoned his early involvement with the urban seediness on the lower east side of Manhattan. But he never lost his infectious love of urban life. His finest paintings of the

1950s, where the influence of Leger and Matisse help to give energy to his vision of America, remain all their jazzy, zestful bounce. A precursor of Pop Art, Davis has been unfairly neglected. But his pictures pulse with visual adrenalin.

and the Guggenheim show does full justice to his alert, joyful achievement.

● The Biennale continues at venues around Venice until November 6; the Stuart Davis exhibition at the Peggy Guggenheim continues until October 5

AROUND THE GALLERIES

IT SOUNDS like far too simple an idea. Large, simply framed colour photographs of black "souvenirs" in people's houses hang at eye level on the walls at Cafe Gallery. In an accompanying well-written narrative the artist, Dave Lewis, seems to be asking questions about *Nice House* is a simple picture of a couple of collectable items of Negropolis, caught from side on. In the accompanying running thought-piece he tells how, as a child, he came face to face with a friend's house with a wooden dumb waiter, a model of a serving black man. "Nothing was said but I remember thinking nice house... shame about the decor, darling." But is this what the work is questioning? Do these straightforward photographs hold out on their own without their "explanation"? Cafe Gallery, Southwark Park, London SE16 0JL (0171-237 1230), until June 22

□ THE suggestion made by this international group exhibition is that girls can now be girls: that women artists can be flippant, indulgent even, without having to be angry or "bad". *Some Kind of Heaven* brings a newer group of women artists together with better-known artists such as Sylvie Fleury, whose huge, furry, mock-yet rockets fight with a video programme to dominate the space at the South London Gallery.

The collective impression is of boys'-comic-meeting-girls'-comic, with the videos keeping up an atmosphere and din. girl after girl showing off, and dancing alone in front of the mirror. In a deliberately indulgent video, Tracy Emlin's boyfriend shouts "Grow up for Christ's sake, you're 35 years old and you behave like a five-year-old".

A general tinkling sound comes from the video installation by Jane and Louise Wilson, in which a shiny black or bubble repeatedly rises out of a pond to come up behind a standing figure. Such space-age nostalgia is probably part of a look back to a 1950s of optimism, long phone chats, high heels and bright lipstick. The series of drawings by Elizabeth Peyton combines the relentless adolescent duality with the fashion sketch to convey an infatuation with a lovely thin boy, while Ute Behrend simply and effectively couples the image of an object or thing with a picture of a girl.

South London Gallery, 65 Peckham Road, London SE5 0JL (0171-703 0121), until July 13

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THE TIMES ARTS

THEATRE 1

Ibsen's *Ghosts* remains a timely play in Mike Alfreds's fine new staging for Method & Madness

THEATRE 2

Lucinda Coxon's second play at the Bush, *Wishbones*, confirms that she has a talent for obscurity

Blast from the past

THEATRE: Mike Alfreds's new staging of Ibsen's *Ghosts* at the Lyric, Hammersmith

There is no disconcerting doubling of roles in the second play of Method & Madness's current repertoire. The company of eight that was severely pushed to occupy two dozen speaking parts in *The Winter's Tale* is more than sufficient for Ibsen's five characters, stuck in their bleak, black box.

Before the play begins, rain is streaming across the sloping panes of the conservatory, but the downpour stops in time for the newly finished, still uninsured orphanage to catch fire and burn to the ground. This is one of the few incidents that cheers the long-suffering Fru Alving, who has paid for the building as a memorial to her respected but degenerate husband and now imagines, poor soul, that she will be free at last of the curse of living with him.

A recital of the plot makes the play sound incredibly gloomy but almost all the time that unctuous Pastor Manders is on stage, telling Fru Alving how she should live her life, ripples of laughter break from the audience, and are nowadays joined by gasps of disbelief that any man, even in 1881, can have been such a male chauvinist prig. On the opening night a young audience, many of them American, were unable to contain their astonishment. Why didn't Fru Alving throw her subversive books at the man's smug head, even bash him with one of the many flower pots that grace Paul Davies's set?

The particular embodiment of the unquestioning attitudes Ibsen was opposing may have changed, but so long as the dead hand of the past

continues to re-emerge from its whitened sepulchre, *Ghosts* will remain a timely play. Mike Alfreds's balanced production gives the characters their due weight, so that Manders never becomes a caricature. Terence Wilton provides him with a smile filled with good white teeth, lighting up Fru Alving's garden-room at his moments of self-satisfaction. The man's gullibility is not easy for us now to comprehend, but Wilton adds a just discernible suggestion that he has let himself be fooled by Chris Crooks's cringing Engstrand because he is moved by a deeply unconscious fascination for the rogue.

Alfreds keeps Manders and Fru Alving at the central table for long stretches of time, and this feels entirely right because the surge of their dialogue, dense as it is with attitudes and revelations, holds our attention. Marty Cruickshank's restless fingers, twitching away under the table's edge, signal what her tongue dares not utter, but her fussing over the newly returned Oswald allowed no opportunity for showing any of the silent wonder at seeing him home again.

Fergus O'Donnell's nervy Oswald is interestingly courteous, and his last request, spoken without the usual passion, followed by grunts in place of words, is unexpectedly effective. Ditto the underplayed awkwardness Penny Layden's Regine shows when elevated above her servile station. The smoke from the fire may blow in a curious direction but the play itself moves like an arrow to its scary end.

JEREMY KINGSTON



Black house: Chris Crooks as Engstrand and Penny Layden as Regine lift the gloom among the five characters stuck in Ibsen's dark fog

From the sharp to the inscrutable

Wishbones
Bush

MOST critics found Lucinda Coxon's *Waiting at the Wishbones* in which a maid accidentally killed her master in mid-orgasm and then carried him to his grave by impersonating him as a saint, to be a bit of a letdown. But it is not only stylised drama that is feeling thirsty. A lot of human tongues are hanging out, too.

Gwen is cast by two other characters in the role of cool guy, and seems far from relishing the compliment. She persistently fends off her husband, in Gawn Grainger's lovely performance a kindly, lummoxed figure, wanly battling with his sexual yearnings and suppressed resentments. She is even more cruel and rejecting to Amelie Brown's Audrey, who has returned from exile in the Arabian desert and renounced an equally arid marriage to rekindle an intense

adolescent relationship with Gwen.

The problem is that Gwen's behaviour isn't easy to comprehend. She wants yet doesn't want a husband. She likes friendship, but at a distance. There are hints of mid-life crisis, a craving for privacy, an unspoken longing for children; but when this self-absorbed woman turns viciously on the troubled girl who has confided in her, one feels less inclined to go on groping for her motives than to consign her to the oblique reserved for nasty characters.

The girl in question, by the by, has killed her newborn baby and, without meaning to, driven its father to suicide. Hence the sub-plot or co-plot in which Mary — a memorably anguished, former performance from Jane Hazlegrave — battles to regain the friendship of the boy's sexually

ambivalent uncle, a furniture restorer who finds it hard to spend his skills to repairing damaged lives.

Does Coxon succeed in making it all real and interesting? When Grainger's Colin is helplessly opining that women are "an endless source of mystery, don't you find?", emphatically yes. When Hazlegrave says "we'll stay here in the darkness but not touching, like apples in a drawer, getting ripe", one is less sure. Moreover, Simon Usher's plucky attempt to cram the piece into a set that combines houses, a river, a church hall, an Italian beach and even a bit of Abu Dhabi, does not always clarify the proceedings. Once again the verdict on Coxon must be: talented but uneven.

BENEDICT NIGHTINGALE



Rejected: Amelie Brown and Gawn Grainger

LONDON

DULWICH CHAMBER MUSIC Henry Argente, soprano, joined by Philip Fawcett on the piano, performs Schubert, preceded by Michael Collins performing two Clarinet Sonatas by Brahms. Dulwich College (Great Hall, SE21 0HT) 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0181-769 0022. Tonight, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0181-769 0022.

ELSEWHERE

BRISTOL Daniel Hegre directs the Cheltenham Symphony Orchestra in Barber's *Essay for Orchestra and Chorus* and a Fourth Symphony. Cheltenham Festival. Cheltenham No 2 is performed by 14-year-old Eunice Koon. Symphony Hall, Broad Street (0121-212 5533). Tonight, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0121-212 5533.

ALL'S WELL THAT ENDS WELL Frances Cuka plays the Countess and Nigel Planer in *Parolles* in Helen Kaut-Horowitz's production of a somewhat tricky Shakespeare. Open Air, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, NW1 0171-486 2430. In rep. Mon-Sat, 8pm; Mon-Sat, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0171-486 2430.

ALWAYS Believe it or not, the King and Mrs Simpson story set in *Never Say Die* by William May and Jason Segal, starring Jan Haden and Clive Carter. Victoria Palace, Victoria Street, W1 0171-584 1317. Mon-Sat, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0171-584 1317.

ART David Hogg, Anton Lesser, Mark Williams in this exceptionally interesting drama about leadership, unspoken resentment and an almost all-white parking. Wyndham's, Charing Cross Road, WC2 0171-369 1736. Mon-Sat, 8pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0171-369 1736.

BEAUTY AND THE BEAST Disney's film turned into a Broadway musical. Julie-Norah Brighten and Alexander Harvey as the leads, with support from the likes of Derek Griffiths and Norman Rodigan. D'Oyly Carte, Tottenham Court Road, W1 0171-416 6000. Mon-Sat, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0171-416 6000.

THE BRIDGES Antiphonies in a play by Stephen Grahame. Open Air, Inner Circle, Regent's Park, NW1 0171-486 2430. In rep. Mon-Sat, 8pm; Mon-Sat, 7:30pm. Tickets £10.00. Tel: 0171-486 2430.

THE ASSOCIATE (PG) Overlooked West End analyst gets her revenge. Fiasco comedy, with Whoopi Goldberg, Diana Vass, Director, Donald Fawcett. UCL Whitehall (0171-434 0031). Warner West End (0171-437 4343).

JURORS (15) Sympathetic drama about Los Angeles justice, with Laila Haddad and David Arquette. Director, David Arquette. Warner West End (0171-437 4343).

MAMMA ROMA Pastiche in a musical about competing second sons (1982), with Anna Maguire as a prostitute who loves, respectably. ICA Cinema (0171-430 3647).

SHADOW CONSPIRACY (15) Charlie Sheen writes out a conspiracy in Washington. Laughably bad thriller, with Linda Hamilton and Donald Sutherland. Director, George P. Cosmatos. Warner West End (0171-437 4343).

THE SQUARE CIRCLE (15) Mildly interesting Indian commercial melodrama about gender confusion. Director, Anil Palkar. Curzon West End (0171-369 1723).

TRIGGER HAPPY (15) Hollow spoof movie about underworld riches, with a story line. Laila Haddad, Richard Dreyfuss, Gabriel Byrne, Richard Dreyfuss. Warner West End (0171-437 4343).

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TODAY'S CHOICE

A daily guide to arts and entertainment compiled by Gillian Murray

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MUSIC 1

Lord Menuhin's great Live Music Now! project notches up 20 years of missionary work



MUSIC 2

Reinhard Goebel's fine Musica Antiqua Köln explores the tortured music of Jan Zelenka

THE TIMES ARTS



MUSIC 3

... while at the Aldeburgh Festival an early Britten work receives its first performance



MUSIC 4

... and at the Wigmore Hall Dawn Upshaw delves into the modern American song repertoire

Joanna Pitman on 20 years of Live Music Now! and its mission to introduce new stars to new audiences. Plus concerts

Millions of happy faces – and one score

Just try this little challenge for size. You have been asked to fill the Barbican Hall (seating capacity 2,000) for a midweek concert at 11am. Your performers are a mixture of enthusiastic amateur musicians and young professionals recently out of college. And your audience will include not only children with mental and physical health problems, hundreds of old people bussed in from homes all over the country, and the Prince of Wales. And, by the way, the Barbican has only two loos for the disabled.

But the nightmare should go like a dream on Thursday morning, with the usual combination of delight, charm and excitement that Live Music Now! brings to every one of the 2,000 concerts it organises every year.

The concert marks the 20th anniversary of Live Music Now!, the scheme begun by Lord Menuhin to bring live music to audiences that do not normally have access to it, and at the same time provide young professional musicians with their first opportunities to perform.

Musicians performed by young enthusiasts often has a profound and lasting effect on Live Music Now!'s audiences of children with learning difficulties, adults in hostels or hospitals, wards, the elderly and broken inmates. Barriers are broken down, spirits are lifted and, for the performers, the pleasures and rewards of the direct response are tremendous.

Rebecca Woolcock has been on the scheme for two years, since she graduated from music college in Manchester. "I do about 12-15 concerts a year for Live Music Now! in various homes for the elderly

and schools for children with learning difficulties. It's so much more rewarding than playing for more staid concert audiences."

"The children are the best, because they can't hide their reactions. I've found it a wonderful experience to communicate so directly with these very appreciative audiences."

Tomorrow's concert, to be attended by friends and supporters of the scheme, will offer music performed by a

‘It's so much more rewarding than playing for staid concert audiences’

selection from the 150 specially trained musicians currently on the Live Music Now! programme, as well as an appearance by the soprano Sally Burgess, who took part in the scheme early in her career. Two pieces have been specially written for the occasion by the harpist Tudur Eames, to be sung by 30 members of the Ty Celyn Youth Group for the disabled. The Ty Celyn group is run by Maggie Harris, who every Sunday afternoon entertains and inspires 97 handicapped people, aged between seven and 30, who have between them a vast range of special needs. "They've just loved the music," she says. "The Live Music Now! scheme has been

brilliant. The kids get hold of the instruments and they have a go, and you should see the looks on their faces when they're making their own music. It's just wonderful."

The group performing tomorrow includes Patrick, who has cerebral palsy, and Emma, who is profoundly physically handicapped and is blind. "Emma just gets so excited," Harris says. "She'll be playing the maracas. She loves it and often she just won't let them go. She's all there mentally, but she's profoundly disabled. But I wouldn't be surprised if during the concert she jumped out of her wheelchair with the excitement."

"Most of the kids can't read, especially when they're singing, but they've learnt two songs and a rap by heart. They'll be talking about it for months afterwards."

Harris enjoys challenges (she took a group of the children climbing in the Dolomites last year and plans a trip for the wheelchair-bound to see the dolphins and whales in Iceland this year), so the sum start from Wales, the shortage of loos for the disabled and the lack of any ramp or lift access on to the stage at the Barbican are far from insurmountable.

"It is gratifying to see that joy can be awakened even for the most withdrawn or depressed among us," Lord Menuhin says. "The inspiration for the project came from my travels in Germany immediately after the war, when I played for audiences in newly liberated camps. In many cases, the music was their first contact with civilisation. I was seeing these people's strengths



Barbican-bound: a member of Karelia Brass, from the Commonsides School, Essex

and weaknesses and for the first time I saw what music could do for them. It was an experience which changed and inspired me."

Over the past 20 years his organisation has changed and inspired thousands more.

'New' Britten proves a winner

Britten/Pears Orch
Snake Maltings

This year's Aldeburgh Festival programme is as forward-looking as any of late, very welcome in this 50th anniversary season that could have inspired an outbreak of musical navel-gazing. Even the Britten repertoire is being widened, and though the unearthing of early works has become something of an Aldeburgh ritual, the first of Sunday's two concerts proved there are still exciting discoveries to be made.

The highlight of the Britten-Pears Orchestra's programme at Snape was the first performance of Britten's Double Concerto in B minor for violin and viola. Written in 1932, while Britten was a student, the work was previously unknown even to biographers. Though no full score was apparently ever made, detailed sketches survived which enabled Colin Matthews to assemble a work he claims to be "virtually 100 per cent" Britten.

It sounds like it: full of vitality, it points the way to the composer's mature style. This performance, with the violinist Katherine Hunka and viola player Philip Dukes conducted by Kent Nagano in his Aldeburgh debut, disclosed a 25-minute piece that deserves to be heard not just in Britten-friendly circumstances.

Little fanfares are gathered up in an opening full of nervous energy. But lyricism is never far below the surface, in spite of the virtuosic demands on the soloists, who are equal, parallel partners throughout the score. The second movement is a lush Romance, a synopsed fantasia that builds up fierce momentum. Material from the first movement makes a haunting return at the end, with muted horns sounding as the piece unfolds.

Even though Britten apparently rejected it, the Double

Concerto clearly marks an important stage in his creative development. It has the originality lacking in the *Two Portraits* for string orchestra, also played here, which date from just two years before. They are confidently crafted, but unmemorable. The first points a swaggering picture of a schoolfriend; the second, more evocative, is a self-portrait dominated by a viola solo full of mistral inflections.

The Double Concerto also stood up well in a programme that included the most sublime example of the genre: Mozart's *Sinfonia Concertante*, played by the same hard-working soloists. Hunka producing sweet but big-bodied sound and Dukes smooth, liquid tone. Shostakovich's *Chamber Symphony*, an arrangement of his desolate *Eighth Quartet*, inspired an excellent performance from Nagano and the Britten-Pears players, but Haydn's *Symphony No 10* sounded wooden and under-rehearsed.

There was one disappointment, too, in the Nash Ensemble's evening concert at Jubilee Hall: a dull, not quite "lived-in" interpretation of Brahms's *Horn Trio*. But compensation came in Oliver Knussen's subtle *Songs Without Words*, and four movements that might also be called miniature tone poems, and in Colin Matthews's *23 Frames*, a restless, witty score. *Pierrot Lunaire* brought the day to a beautiful end, with Lucy Shelton as the singer-speaker and Martyn Brabbins a fluid conductor who evoked the fantastic moonlit world of Schoenberg's seminal work.

JOHN ALLISON

Flight into Baroque country

OVER MORE than a decade the admirable Lufthansa Festival of Baroque Music has opened a window on the tantalising, little-trod byways of 17th and 18th-century music. All credit to that airline for sticking loyally to St James, Piccadilly – and also to some of its rival carriers for sponsoring individual concerts within the festival.

Friday's exploration of Jan Dismas Zelenka's *Lamentations*, for instance, was backed by British Midland,

Musica Antiqua
Köln/Goebel
St James, WI

which must rank as a corporate decision at least as bold as painting bad modern art onto your tail-fins. Zelenka, a Bohemian who became court composer at Dresden while Bach and Handel were flourishing in Leipzig and London, was a mad, gloomy homose-

ual whose music is also mostly mad and gloomy. But it also reminds us that not everything in the late Baroque was calculated, cogent and cerebral.

Certainly these *Lamentations* are startling. Abrupt speed and metre changes, archaic and anarchic dissonances, and passages where the solo voice is recklessly plunged below all the accompanying instruments: these are hallmarks of the Zelenka style. So is the choppy text-setting: mundane recitative one moment, expressive melody the next. Zelenka's champions find this stop-go stuff useful and refreshing; his detractors point out that, between the jolts, the harmonic sequences and counterpoints are pretty laboured.

On Friday's showing, five *Lamentations* in a row is a

wearying experience. However, that may have been because the solo singers (the countertenor Steve Dugardin, tenor Christoph Genz and bass-baritone Raimund Nolte) were, at least to begin with, self-effacing to the point of sounding robotic.

The passion all came from the fine players of Reinhard Goebel's Musica Antiqua Köln (two oboes, five strings and harpsichord). Though the first beat of every bar seemed unduly stressed, the contrapuntal interplay was beautifully sinuous and telling. Zelenka emerged as an interestingly dysfunctional personality who didn't quite have enough musical resourcefulness to express the mountain of distress in his soul.

RICHARD MORRISON

Voice of America

Upshaw/Kalish
Wigmore Hall

RECITAL convention was stood on its head when Dawn Upshaw began her long-anticipated London programme with a dozen songs by her American contemporaries all born within five years of herself. Having been precipitated into a certain notoriety by her contribution to the recording of Gorecki's lugubrious Third Symphony in both the "pop" and classical charts, her commitment to the music of our own time is beyond question.

Her choice of American songs, however, did not suggest there was much to catch the listener's imagination. From the simple lyricism of two Emily Dickinson settings by Jake Heggie and Anna Weesner respectively, to the pedestrian parlour of "babies gumming French fries" in Kenneth Frazelle's *Sunday at McDonald's*, most looked askance at poetic conceits.

Exceptions might be made for Juliana Hall's beguiling *Sonnet*, and for John Musto's poignant setting of social concern in *Litany* (verse by L.

Hughes), to both of which Gil Kalish at the piano brought sensitive insight as he did throughout, while the soprano's directness of utterance invited an attentive ear even if her well-placed tone admitted little variation in colour.

She was at her most eloquent in the searching *Hermit Songs* by Samuel Barber, which transport the anonymous poems of medieval monks into a musical dimension of benign and elevating eloquence. *The Desire For Hermitage* is not surpassed in beauty by anything European.

The soprano left her native heritage only for five French songs by Messiaen, which she endowed with passion and ripe tone. She reverted to her American repertoire for her first encores, beginning with a diverting ditty by the under-sung Charles Ives.

NOEL GOODWIN

For your company golf day... it's the business

The Times Golf Challenge is open to any company, organisation, partnership, association or club (and golf society) based in the British Isles, which hosts a business or company golf day in which 22 or more amateur players take part.

How to participate

1. Host a golf day involving at least 22 players and play under the Standard scoring system.
2. Complete and send the form, together with the registration fee of £200 and 10% to enter in the challenge, prior to your golf day and no later than 21st September 1997.
3. After your golf day, promptly submit the results of your day scoring system, (with official club headcount) and of whom used on an average of the following category.
4. Golf days registered after 30th September or played after 21st September will be entered for the 1998 Challenge.

Benefits of Entry

- Your golf day featured in The Times "Outstanding golf days" feature.
- Your golf day results featured in The Times "golf day" results column.
- A list of your participants' names included in your golf day winners.
- 25 Copies of The Times delivered to the golf club on the morning of your golf day.
- A golf day equipment programme for use on your golf day.
- Complimentary entry of the Official event magazine, "The Business Golf".
- Three months' free subscription to Golf World magazine.
- If the conditions of the event, (played or postponed to 1998), of the day, leading players in among the top 25 scores to your respective region, they will qualify to a team to play in one of the National Regional Finals in October 1997.
- The winning company from each of the National Regional Finals will compete in the National Final at Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club in September 1997, to be played for a day TV broadcast.
- The winners of the National Final will be invited to participate in The World Corporate Golf Challenge.

Rules and Conditions

A full set of rules and conditions will be sent with acknowledgement of receipt of registration or you may obtain a copy by calling the Challenge office (0141 221 2225) or by Fax on 0141 221 2225 (09.00-17.00) (calls cost 40p per minute). The competition is approved by the R & A for payment of expenses under Rule 4-8. 77/04/97

Further Information

Call the Challenge office on 0141 221 2225 or 0141 221 2225 (Scotland). or you can access the internet site on <http://www.golftoday.co.uk/timescorpgo/>

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Company name: _____
Name of Company Representative: _____
Position: _____
Company Address: _____
Post Code: _____
Telephone No: _____
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We are holding a golf day at: _____
Address: _____
County: _____
Golf Club: _____
Golf Day Date: _____
Golf Day Time: _____
Golf Day Start: _____
Golf Day End: _____
Golf Day Score: _____
Golf Day Winner: _____
Golf Day Runner Up: _____
Golf Day Third Place: _____
Golf Day Fourth Place: _____
Golf Day Fifth Place: _____
Golf Day Sixth Place: _____
Golf Day Seventh Place: _____
Golf Day Eighth Place: _____
Golf Day Ninth Place: _____
Golf Day Tenth Place: _____
Golf Day Eleventh Place: _____
Golf Day Twelfth Place: _____
Golf Day Thirteenth Place: _____
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Fair blows the wind for France

Blair needs lessons from Jospin, not Kohl, says Anatole Kaletsky

Whatever is agreed in Amsterdam to paper over the cracks opening up between France and Germany, the pillars of the European construction, one striking fact is already clear. The position taken by the Labour Government on key economic issues facing Europe is closer to that of the German Christian Democrat-led coalition than to the newly-elected Socialists in France.

For most sensible people in Britain this is a great relief. Sensible people believe that the Germans know more than the French about running an efficient modern economy. If in doubt (which sensible people usually are about economics), they would far rather have Mr Blair follow Helmut Kohl and the Bundesbank than an elderly French professor who looks like an old-Labour retread and sometimes even sounds like Michael Foot. And sensible people are naturally delighted that Britain's new "left of centre" Government seems to have more in common with Europe's right-wing parties than with those on the Left.

But it sometimes happens, particularly in economics, that sensible people turn out to be wrong. I suspect that the disagreement between Tony Blair and Lionel Jospin could be such a case — or at least could appear to be resolved during the next few years in the Frenchman's favour.

Jospin's views may soon look like a more successful formula than new Labour economics. In two specific respects. First, French unemployment will probably start falling in the next year, perhaps quite sharply, while Britain's may well start rising. Second, France's average living standards, output and productivity, all of which are already above British levels, will probably accelerate, leaving Britain even further behind.

The main reason for believing that Mr Jospin will do better economically than Mr Blair, at least in both Prime Ministers' first few years of office, is simply that they start from very different positions. Mr Blair inherited a healthy economy, with unemployment low and falling, inflation subdued, living standards going up and with national self-confidence reviving. Almost anything that changes will seem to make matters worse.

Mr Jospin, by contrast, has taken over a badly mismanaged economy, which may now be at its lowest ebb: unemployment is at a postwar record of 12 per cent; consumer and business confidence have been shattered by five years of recession and the French national psyche is in despair about the monetary kowtowing to Germany.

From this nadir, even a modest cyclical recovery (which has, in fact, already started) will give cause for celebration. As for relations with Germany, Mr Jospin seems bound to win whatever happens. If EMU goes ahead, France will have succeeded in its long-term goal of abolishing the Bundesbank and getting its hands on the monetary reins. If EMU is delayed or abandoned, Mr Jospin will claim that the delay was imposed at French insistence and will give France more freedom. With luck, he will be able to point to falling unemployment and a cyclical improvement in incomes and output to prove that he is right.

It may turn out, then, that Mr Jospin was lucky to take over a sick and mismanaged economy, while Mr Blair was unfortunate to come to power after four years of competent economic policy and steady growth. This statement is not as trivial as it sounds. If France does do better than Britain in the next few years, albeit for "purely cyclical reasons", this will reopen in starker form the conflict between the new French emphasis on employment and the Anglo-German insistence on stability, which the politicians are trying to smooth over at Amsterdam. For at the root of this conflict lies the German denial that unemployment has anything to do with cyclical fluctuations in the economy. To deny something so obviously true may seem bizarre — but not, apparently, too bizarre for new Labour, which seems increasingly drawn to the German point of view.

The Anglo-German position is, broadly, that the only cure for European unemployment is the adoption of British-style "structural" measures to make labour markets more flexible, by reducing hiring and firing restrictions, tightening welfare regulations, improving labour training and generally deregulating the economy. The Germans may be unwilling to adopt many of these measures in practice, but in theory they propound them with passion.

What the Germans believe even more passionately — again in agreement with new Labour — is that interest rates, exchange rates and fiscal policies do not directly cause unemployment. These macro-economic or cyclical policies can do nothing to reduce unemployment: they should be devoted entirely to keeping inflation under control.

This is why the Germans are so determined that the stability pact, which is supposed to govern macro-economic policy in a post-EMU Europe, should not contain any reference to employment. The French are equally determined to see employment and stability tied together.

The best cure would be a combination of expansionary macro policies and competitive labour market reforms. This is exactly what the Americans have been doing since the mid-1980s. It was also the course which the Tories embarked on after 1992. But with John Major now watching cricket, and Kenneth Clarke unlikely even to become Leader of the Opposition, there seems to be nobody left in Europe to put forward such a straightforwardly commonsense point of view.

DAN BLAIR PILOT FOR THE FORSEEABLE FUTURE



A period of silence, Sir

The Prince and Princess of Wales, a wise man once assured me, could have turned around the entire British educational system. All they needed to do (and he urged it on them ten years back) was to send Princes William and Harry to a state primary school.

Security could have been as feasible as it was at their dinky private pre-prep; the Princess could have joined the school-gate mothers, made cakes for PTA fundraising events, worried about Prince Harry in the early seven-year-old Standard Assessment Tests, and carried home the usual assortment of bloody things made out of detergent bottles. "It would have turned everything round," said my source sadly. "A rush of confidence in the potential of state education, teachers' morale boosted, middle-class parents flocking to emulate them. Too much to hope, I suppose."

This was not a left-wing educationalist speaking, but a silver-haired former public school headmaster. He may have been right: these were the palmy days when Diana was the nation's favourite mum and the Prince was gamely breaking new ground with the Prince's Trust and organic farming. The Thatcher reforms would still have happened, but perhaps the roughness and insulting and strident bossiness of successive education secretaries would have been mitigated by this informal royal warrant for the national system. Even if the gesture had lasted only three or four years before the inevitable boarding schools, it could have defused much of the bitterness and mistrust which has marred the education debate.

It didn't happen. The Windsors continued to identify with chic little nurseries, rural boarding prep and the elite excellence of public schools. They kept their boys cocooned in a polite world of children who had always been put to bed on time, fed nourishing food and taught table manners: a world of contented, well-paid, cheerful teachers, small classes, wide green spaces and fabulous facilities. They had the right to make that choice: what parent can blame them? It's a lovely little world if you can afford it. Affluent Labour politicians like the Blairs, prevented by ideology from paying fees and therefore doomed to the exhausting and devious paths of trying to make "parental choice" work, may have

The public won't place its trust in a Prince so ignorant of state education

looked with an envious eye at the easy, pleasant consumer options enjoyed by the apolitical Windsors.

But there is a price to pay for being aloof from common experience, and wise royals know it. The price is silence, or at least a measure of discretion, when it comes to subjects in which you not only lack experience, but have shown no desire whatsoever to gain any. When the Prince of Wales joined in the modish attacks on our "failed system", and the "fashionable approach" which "abandoned a disciplined structure in schools", he was being plain

When he complacently told David Frost that the Prince's Trust has been "in many ways picking up the pieces of a somewhat failed system", did it occur to the Prince that what his trust actually does is precisely what the bogymen of progressive education have always advocated? It does not herd its clients into rows near blackboards; it listens, encourages their interests and individual talents, guides them tactfully through the business maze and backs them with money and steadfast belief. I have met dozens of them, doing everything from installing Rasta hair-extensions to welding up hangers: they are grateful for the very modern, unstuffy approach of the Prince's Trust administrators. No, if you want to respect the Prince of Wales, look at the people who work for him.

Of course, these are heady times. The Blair landslide must make it seem to the heir as if all his own beliefs have at last been vindicated. It is easy to see his temptation to throw aside royal caution and be perceived as a key adviser to an exciting new young Prime Minister. He himself is middle-aged now, battered by divorce and satire, his private life made into an ongoing tabloid farce. Anything which suggests that he is integral to a new, socially advancing Britain must be irresistible. Everyone likes to run down the street after a circus band, especially when it is playing your own tune.

He mustn't. It is not safe — Mr

Instead, he appears to imagine that the average state school is as well-resourced and pleasant and lavishly staffed as Gordonstoun or Ludgrove or Eton, but has spent 30 years wilfully encouraging indiscipline and illiteracy just for the fun of it. Does he not read the papers and know that in talking about "fashionable" slackness he is 20 years out of date? As for praising "the Far East", is it the Korean model of chanting conformity he fancies? Or the rulebook Japanese system, which has produced so many breakdowns and suicides?

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He mustn't. It is not safe — Mr

Libby Purves

He mustn't. It is not safe — Mr

We won't let Foster outfox us

Clive Aslet urges MPs to keep the urban pack at bay

I am a cruel and barbaric person. I should not be allowed to write the arguments myself and make my own mind. Members of Parliament are better able to do that on behalf. This is the implication of Bill announced by Michael Foster for the fresh-faced MP for Worcester hunting with hounds. I enjoy hunting, just as Mr Foster enjoys own (to me repulsive) sport competition angling. It is a sign of new intolerance in British society: we can no longer rub along.

I took up hunting five years ago with the intention of experiencing sport that I imagined would soothe or later be outlawed. I approached with eyes, as I thought, unclouded prejudice. I came to discover, however, that almost everything I imagined about it was wrong. Hunting is not a sport, it is a way of life. It is a way of life that can only be based on class: a section of the population (seen as toffs) having fun in ways that are unfamiliar to it. It was surprised to find that every shire pack attracts all kinds of followers. Even those mounted horses are not necessarily rich. I have never met anyone who lusted at the death of an animal. It is paradox, but hunting people respect foxes and want to see a healthy population of them kept in countryside.

If hunting were banned, my usefulness as a princely warren would be diminished. As I believe life of Britain would be diminished. But then I only hunt a few days a season. To many country people hunting is nothing less than their life. It embodies that sense of community which Tony Blair exhorts us rediscover in other areas. It unites people of very different levels of income. The diary of puppy show, point-to-point meetings, hunter tri and social evenings, quite apart from hunting, gives neighbours the opportunity to meet each other. Now that few people work in agriculture, country can be a lonely place.

That explains the passion of sports followers. It will be a simple a pro-hunting event to take place in Hyde Park on July 10. A crowd could be well over 100,000. They will not be people who feel very strongly that they should be allowed to run their own lives.

Hunting could be to Mr Blair what the poll tax was to Mrs Thatcher — unless, as seems likely, the Government allows this Privy Member's Bill to die for lack of time. To many country people the attack their sport symbolises their opposition at the hands of alien officialdom which has now been made worse the lack of country voices in Parliament. There are virtually no English MPs from rural backgrounds on Labour benches, and few among the new Tory intake. There is a sense of being alienated among rural dwellers which causes emotions to run high.

If hunting is banned, I shall give up keeping my horse. I do not pretend that this, by itself, will bring the rural economy to its knees. (I recall a remark of a member of the Royal Family, after I had revealed what thought to be the immense extravagance of owning a horse: "Only of horses? How sweet." Nevertheless, it is a stable owner, the farrier, the saddler and the vet will all be the poorer. Y the idea that people would lose jobs hunting ceased was greeted with disbelief and a giggle at Mr Foster press conference yesterday.

Mr Foster believes himself to be motivated by the desire to relieve cruelty to animals. To country people this seems all but incomprehensible given the agonising deaths that he suffered by, say, poisoned rat without any outcry from the urban public. If I believed hunting to be crueler than other means of controlling foxes, I would not do it. But hunting is the only method of killing that allows the fox a quick death. It allows it to get clean away. It is also the only one that generally culls on the sick and the old. Shooting does not kill all foxes outright — some die slowly. Nor does the shooter differentiate between victims. Yet shooting by licensed marksmen is the method of dispatch favoured by Mr Foster ally, Professor Stephen Harris.

Professor Harris is a man of singular views. He believes, for example, that urban foxes do not scavenge from dustbins. This contradicts the evidence of many people's eyes. Yesterday he stated that "many farmers do not regard foxes as a pest". I have never met a single farmer who holds that opinion. The issue is how best to control foxes without exterminating them from the countryside altogether.

In the end, though, the debate about hunting is a waste of time. Hunting must die eventually, of its own accord. The pressures that the late 20th century has brought to bear upon the countryside will be too much for it. The open country, with hedges and copses, is disappearing. Hunting depends upon just the sort of landscape that the public most enjoys. Better to protect than ban the sport which created it.

The author is Editor of Country Life

Hot property

OVER-EXCITEMENT in the stunt department of the new James Bond film caused havoc in north London yesterday when the fire brigade was summoned to put out a fire at Brent Cross shopping centre.

The special effects department had set fire to three cars in the car park to give the impression that they had been hit by bazookas in the Bond movie *Tomorrow Never Dies*.

Within seconds, flames were



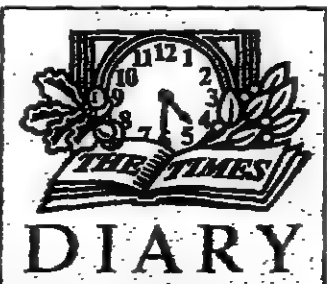
London's burning: Brosnan

shooting towards the ceiling, acrid black smoke was filling the area and the car park where the scene was being filmed had to be evacuated. Pierce Brosnan had been filming on the site last week, but none of the cast was there yesterday.

"There was a column of smoke clearly visible half way round London's North Circular road," said an onlooker. In what some members of the production team described as an over-reaction, four fire engines, three police cars and two ambulances arrived. "Our officers used breathing apparatus and two hose reels. It was a serious fire and we are happy that we were called on perfectly valid grounds," said a fire brigade spokesman.

Eon Productions, the film company, insisted that nobody was endangered, although smoke damage was extensive, and light fittings and concrete were burnt. "We called the fire brigade as a precautionary measure."

After announcing his Private Members' Bill, Mike Foster, Labour MP for Worcester, has had his office bombarded with telephone calls and faxes. So, too, has Mike



Foster, MP for Hastings and Rye and another new Labour arrival in the Commons, who has nothing to do with the anti-hunting Bill. A call to his office was answered yesterday with the timid greeting: "Are you sure you want Mike Foster of Hastings and Rye?"

All clear?

TONY BLAIR'S attendance at the European summit in Amsterdam yesterday was headline news at lunchtime on ITN, but viewers were interested in only one item: why was Michael Brunson, the Political Editor, wearing dark glasses on a cold, cloudy day?

Back in London, the switchboard was besieged by callers concerned for the health of their sunny political pin-up. "It was nothing sinister," explained ITN. "No black eyes

or hayfever, not even a hangover. Simply a pair of sunglasses."

Master's voice

TREMENDOUS news for Alan Duncan, MP for Rutland and Melton, who has been doing sterling work pushing William Hague to the Tory leadership. So effective has he been, not least in promoting the rude health of Hague's relationship with his former Prime Jenkins, that it is being said that he has been pencilled in for the post of



"Would you rather be shot, poisoned or savaged by dogs?"

Hague's PPS. It is felt that Duncan, a bag-carrier nonpareil who used to be Brian Mawhinney's PPS, could perform a skunkish, Mandelsonian role for Hague if he is elected Tory leader; a role best performed free from the shackles of a post in the Shadow Cabinet.

Foxy ladies

THERE is concern among the bluestockings of Wycombe Abbey School, Bucks, over a BBC film recently shot on its grounds which using some of the pupils as extras. *Bright Hair* tells the story of a schoolgirl who becomes involved with a Svangali-like master. Amelia Fox, daughter of the actor Edward Fox, is playing the psychotic schoolgirl.

"The girls have been fascinated by the story," said one parent, "and I think the headmistress may be regretting letting the film crew in." A call to the school bursar reveals some measure of confusion. "I was under the impression," said the bursar, Mr Rainbow, "that it was about a schoolmaster and a school mistress, not a schoolgirl."

That's my girl

MORE long lenses than ever are likely to be skulking around Bat-



Meet the folks: Henriette

moral this summer as the Royal Family takes its Scottish break. Sources close to Prince Andrew say that he intends to take his new girlfriend, Henriette Peace, to meet the family in Scotland.

The Prince has been walking out with Henriette, 29, who works for the BBC, since the beginning of the year, but they have yet to be photographed together. Yesterday, Buckingham Palace cordially declined to be drawn. "It's a private visit."

P.H.S

THE EYES OF... years on, value the



THE TORY TASK

Recovery requires a leader to face the federalists

Baroness Thatcher has never found it difficult to express an opinion but even she cannot bring herself to endorse any of the candidates left running for the leadership of the Conservative Party. It is not difficult to understand why. Although each has strengths, all are flawed. To endorse any of them full-heartedly would mean contriving a naive enthusiasm and suppressing mature scepticism. Endorsement now, in any case, can be of only limited purpose. The momentum and numbers are with William Hague and he seems fated to secure the prize. He has done nothing to make that an injustice but little so far to make it fitting. It will, in any case, be a prize worth winning only if Mr Hague and his party show themselves capable of learning from the humiliation so recently inflicted upon them.

Speaking last night in Oxford Lord Archer sought to tutor his party in lessons from Labour. His analysis of the superiority of the Labour machine, a "chiefdom tank" to the Tories' cavalry charge, is accurate as far as it goes, but it does not begin to go far enough. By concentrating on the need for organisational reform Lord Archer, like his preferred candidate, Mr Hague, is dealing with a symptom not a cause. It is certainly true that the Tories need to overhaul their organisation and democratise their structures but they need more than re-engineering; they require a new direction.

Labour did not win because its campaign was superior. The party's election effort was more than a match for the Conservatives in 1987 and 1992. Labour won because its message was coherent, its leader convincing and the Tories were neither. The Conservatives forfeited the electorate's trust, provided no persuasive social vindication for their return to office and were incapable of communicating to the outside world why the issue that consumed them — Europe — was of such importance.

John Redwood is right to argue that the

Tories' European civil war can only be satisfactorily concluded with victory for one side or another. To leave the issue of entry to a single currency open is to invite the two sides of the argument to a five-year wrestle on the Reichenbach Falls. The Tories should give that madness a miss and the election of a new leader must settle the matter.

The case for Mr Hague rests on the belief that he will be best able to articulate a policy of clear opposition to a single currency while reaching out to federalists within Conservative ranks. The spread of his support certainly suggests he could provide inclusive leadership, although it may also mean that some who repose hopes in him now will face disillusionment. How Mr Hague will heal his fractured party is still difficult to discern but he is, at least, right to recognise that "it is more important to have a cohesive team than to have every person in the party in it".

The prospect that some Tories may leave the fray, or at least its frontline, to play the backbench Achilles would be a matter for regret but not distress. The memory of Labour in the Eighties haunts Tory dreams but their current divisions do not yet bear direct comparison. The failure of the Social Democrats in 1983, and the difficulties Alan Howarth endured on the road to Newport via Damascus, provide a warning for those contemplating desertion. More than that, the Tory federalists do not have the consolation of knowing, as the SDP defectors did, that their views are closer than their opponents to the voters' instincts.

When Labour moved to unilateralism it moved away from a public who favoured keeping the bomb. As the Tories have moved away from the single currency they have found that public support has hardened for keeping the pound. Within the Opposition a sceptical stance has to be taken for granted: political energies have to be released for deployment elsewhere. Mr Hague seems to appreciate that lesson.

NOT DEAD YET

The Middle East peace process can still move forward

The distinction between an impasse and a stalemate might seem rather subtle, but it is very significant in the Middle East. The outward signs for the peace process of late have been discouraging. For the past three months serious dialogue has been suspended. The Har Homa housing project initiated by Israel in March has led Yasser Arafat to boycott further deliberations. The continued deadlock partly explains Binyamin Netanyahu's decision to cancel his visit to the US this week.

Mr Netanyahu has had other distractions. His role in the Bar-On scandal nearly forced his resignation: only on Sunday did the Israeli Supreme Court make it clear that neither he nor his Minister for Justice would be indicted. His fractious coalition is in further crisis over appointments and legislation. Dennis Ross, the American mediator, failed to restart the peace process. Egypt's Osama el-Baz has taken on that task without immediate success.

The prospects for peace are not as poor as such incidents might suggest. The process remains the only plausible option for both Mr Netanyahu and Mr Arafat. The Har Homa dispute is more symbolic than substantive. It lies on Jewish land between two existing Jewish settlements. In different times it would not have provoked the current controversy. It has become a trial of strength between the two sides, part of an intense pattern of positioning before the prospective onset of "final status" talks.

The same was true last September when Israel opened a second entrance to the tunnel that runs beneath the Muslim quarter of the old city of Jerusalem. That was bitterly denounced by Mr Arafat and the Palestine National Authority. Accusations of sacrilege abounded. It apparently provoked the violent exchanges between the Israeli

Army and Palestinian police that truly shook peace to its foundations. Yet once Israel agreed to redeploy its troops from Hebron the protests abated.

The two sides need to extricate themselves from the present impasse. Mr Arafat has said he will not return to the bargaining table unless building at Har Homa is suspended. Mr Netanyahu was apparently inclined to concede a short-term pause but dissociated himself from that idea once it was leaked to the press by the Palestinian side. The solution, like the problem itself, lies elsewhere. Mr el-Baz has rightly concentrated on finding other areas where Israel can satisfy the Palestinians. Mr Netanyahu has offered to accelerate Arab housing developments in Jerusalem. Mr Netanyahu has also offered his first thoughts on what principles would guide him in final status negotiations. These gestures should prove sufficient to soon persuade Mr Arafat to resume the dialogue.

Those fresh talks will not go far if the present structure for the peace process is retained. The prolonged "interim" phase preceding final status talks has almost invited the endless disputes and reciprocal brinkmanship that have marked the last twelve months. That would probably be true even if Shimon Peres had been re-elected in Israel. The only way of avoiding endless advance manoeuvring is to move to the ultimate round as quickly as possible.

Mr Arafat has resisted that suggestion, preferring instead slowly to accumulate concessions from Israel. He has been willing to encourage violent demonstrations as part of this practice. As the Har Homa affair has demonstrated, that is a deeply risky strategy. Once the process resumes it should do so in full. If not the next impasse may indeed evolve into an enduring stalemate.

THE EYES OF JUSTICE

Forty years on, salute the conscience of society

Views that were once seen as radical by the legal establishment have quietly but firmly become mainstream. It is no longer thought subversive to believe that the British criminal justice system is capable of producing miscarriages of justice or that the European Convention on Human Rights should be incorporated into domestic law. In part this is a reflection of a generational change at the top of the profession. But it has also come about thanks to the thoughtful and unrelenting work of Justice, the all-party law reform group, which celebrates its 40th anniversary today.

The organisation has much to celebrate. A series of high-profile victims of wrongful conviction have been released from jail. Not only has Justice won these individual cases; it can now hand over responsibility for investigating miscarriages of justice to the new Criminal Cases Review Commission.

The official recognition that mistakes can be made, even in British courts, is perhaps Justice's greatest achievement. Before the Royal Commission on Criminal Justice was set up, many judges thought it heretical even to suggest that they and their juries could send innocent people to jail. To hold this view was said to undermine confidence in the criminal justice system. In reality it was the growing number of bad convictions that was undermining public confidence. The

Criminal Cases Review Commission is a formal acknowledgement of the need to investigate, rather than cover up or deny, suspicions of wrongful convictions. The culture of complacency has been overturned.

But Justice is not merely a pressure group for innocent people in jail, though that has been the most public of its activities. It also works effectively, and often behind the scenes, on law reform. It has an untarnished reputation for impartiality and its detailed research reports carry weight with politicians and civil servants.

The organisation's influence has brought about the ombudsman system, the original Criminal Injuries Compensation Scheme and data protection laws. It has helped to ensure the inclusion of some safeguards in the much criticised measures for disclosure of evidence, and has made asylum procedures and sentencing fairer.

The key to Justice's success is that it commands respect and backing from top lawyers across the political spectrum. Studiedly non-partisan, the organisation seeks merely to safeguard the liberties of the citizen. Lord Alexander of Weedon, Justice's chairman, describes it as "the conscience of the legal profession". In the pioneering work it has done over the past 40 years, it has a wider claim too to be seen as the conscience of society.

Financial rethink in defence review

From Squadron Leader T. A. Chivers, RAF (ret)

Sir, David Hart's worries about the defence operational audit and the relationship between ministers and decision-makers ("We can have more bang for our buck", June 5), while important, pale into insignificance beside more fundamental questions.

Is the continuance of our Rapid Reaction Force in Germany meant to deter the Russians or to reassure the United States about our commitment to NATO?

Would political and diplomatic adjustments not make our costly, post-imperial garrisons in Cyprus, Brunei and the Falklands unnecessary?

One wonders whether the Royal Navy really needs its commando assault ships, and if so, what for. Is a force of about 30 destroyers/frigates adequate for the defence of these islands?

Does the RAF need over 200 frighteningly expensive Eurofighters, or would an off-the-shelf purchase instead, say, from the United States really devastate Britain's aerospace industry?

New Labour will undoubtedly wish to continue the Trident programme, but some thought must surely be devoted to the likelihood of our ever unleashing a nuclear missile against, perhaps, a Middle Eastern power. Their rulers' lack of rationality might render them impervious to the threat of such a weapon. Indeed, deterrence itself, long the staple of many academics as well as of the military, needs to be reviewed.

Yours faithfully,
T. A. CHIVERS
(Senior lecturer in defence and international affairs, Royal Military Academy, Sandhurst, 1989-94),
23 Norwich Road,
Northwood Hills, Middlesex,
June 9.

From Rear-Admiral
J. P. W. Middleton

Sir, David Hart's article displays a narrow actuarial approach which ignores the threats and snarls of the Armed Forces. To view them, in the drab language of bureaucracy, simply as providers of units of defence capability is to misunderstand the complex, long-term aspects of training and ethos which are needed to deliver capability: not just now but far into the future.

Great damage is already being done. The *Front Line First* study (reports and leading article, July 15, 1994) largely set aside the vital contribution to sustainability and credibility made by logistic and maintenance excellence. The plethora of agencies now established all nibble away at uniformed expertise and at valuable sources of versatile, trained manpower. Putting training out to contract threatens the continuity of relevant experience guaranteed by trainers drawn from front-line units.

My concern is that too many service officers within the Ministry of Defence have taken the honeyed bait provided by Mr Hart and his ilk and have adopted, with great enthusiasm, this simplistic attitude. A headquarters full of management accountants is unlikely to impress the troops — ours or theirs.

Yours faithfully,
PATRICK MIDDLETON
(Chief Staff Officer (Support)
to the C-in-C Fleet, 1989-92),
Manora, Chilmark, Wiltshire,
June 9.

Regulation of auditors

From the President of the
Institute of Chartered Accountants
in England and Wales

Sir, How reassuring to read the article by Austin Mitchell, MP ("Calling auditors to account", *Business*, May 29), calling for the end of self-regulation in the auditing and insolvency sector. We have a new Government, new ministers, new issues. But Mr Mitchell is still playing his Bourbon tune: learnt nothing and forgotten nothing.

As Mr Mitchell well knows, the accountancy bodies are not trade associations. They operate under a royal charter that requires them to maintain standards in the public interest. The Institute of Chartered Accountants in England and Wales regulates some 8,000 audit firms and around 1,000 insolvency practitioners under statute. It examines carefully all complaints, from the DTI and elsewhere, and takes action appropriate in the circumstances.

Audit regulation at the institute has never been "chaps regulating chaps". There has been lay involvement at all points in the process and publicity for any firm that has its audit registration withdrawn. The independent joint disciplinary scheme publishes a report on each public-interest case when it reaches its conclusions.

These most complex of cases take time to process. But the fines and costs against members and firms have often been substantial. Delays in the case of BCCI arose when the disciplinary scheme was subject to a court decision preventing it from investigating the role of the auditors while other investigations were in train.

Yours faithfully,
C. N. LAINE, President,
The Institute of Chartered
Accountants in England and Wales,
Chartered Accountants' Hall,
PO Box 453,
Moorgate Place, EC2 2BJ.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Crucial factors in leadership choice

From Mr Giles Chichester, MEP for
Devon and East Plymouth (European
People's Party Parliamentary Group
(Conservative))

Sir, I am fascinated to learn that all the 17 Conservative MEPs who were consulted about the leadership of the party reached the same conclusion in favour of Ken Clarke (report, June 11).

There are two schools of opinion within our ranks, one more Europhile and a smaller one, including myself, more Eurosceptic. So it is all the more remarkable that we should all, separately and individually, make the same judgment about the future, as did a clear majority of every section of the party except MPs themselves. Who then is more in touch with opinion?

For my part I am not so keen on what I perceive as Mr Clarke's views on the European issue, but I think it is more important for party and country that we go for a man of wide ministerial experience, who is the only candidate with experience of being in opposition and who is most likely to keep the party firmly on the centre-right ground which we must hold in order to win the next general election.

Labour can't wait for us to make the same mistake it did after the 1979 election when it voted for ideological purity and turned down Denis Healey, the one man who would then have posed us serious problems.

Yours faithfully,
GILES CHICHESTER,
48 Queen Street, Exeter, Devon,
June 13.

From Mrs Norma Graves

Sir, Both Kenneth Clarke and William Hague were part of John Major's Cabinet that chose to ignore the message which the grass roots and the general public were sending to them. John Redwood, on the other hand, was against VAT on fuel and eventually resigned from the Cabinet, urging the Government to change its policies ("no change, no chance"). The present situation might not have arisen if Cabinet members and MPs had put party and country before self-preservation.

The Conservative Party needs a leader with intellect, ability, integrity and clarity of vision. John Redwood has shown he has all these and that he can perform well in the House. The result from his constituency in the general election was the best of all the leadership contenders — a clear message of confidence from people who know him.

Yours etc,
NORMA GRAVES,
The Garth House,
Tillingham, Petworth, West Sussex,
June 16.

From Mrs L. A. Skinner

Sir, With all due respect to Mr Hague's great talents and potential for the future, if the Conservatives had won the last election and it had been announced that in the new Cabinet Mr Hague would occupy the post of Chancellor of the Exchequer, Home Secretary or Foreign Secretary, there would have been a lot of raised eyebrows in the country, to put it mildly. Now we are told that in less than

five years he will be ready to challenge for the post of the Prime Minister of Great Britain — is this some kind of gallows humour?

Yours faithfully,
L. A. SKINNER,
28 Lakeside Avenue,
Llandrindod Wells, Powys,
June 12.

From Mr Andrew Cruickshank

Sir, Kenneth Clarke's team boasts that their man has the majority support of constituency members round the country. Of course he does. These are the supine and sycophantic rump who unthinkingly supported every step which led to the final debacle.

Of more concern should be the views of ex-members (like myself after 30 years) who could no longer stomach the appeasement and fudge on Europe. The Conservative Party has little hope of re-election until it can convince its lost support that it will re-assess and defend Britain's status as an independent sovereign nation.

There is one person who recognises this policy imperative, John Redwood was the only Conservative with the guts to take up John Major's gauntlet in 1995 and with the political nous to prophesy "no change, no chance" — which came spectacularly true two years on.

Yours faithfully,
A. A. C. CRUICKSHANK,
The Doone,
Byfleet Road, Cobham, Surrey,
June 16.

From Lord Laing of Dunphail

Sir, It has been said that some people can understand and not decide and others can decide and not understand and that very few can do both.

The electorate, rightly or wrongly, perceived a degree of indecision during the period of the last Government.

I have never met Mr Hague, but his change of stance overnight with Michael Howard must put a question mark over his ability to decide.

What we need above all in the party now is a leader with the power of command, control and decision. Mr Ken Clarke clearly holds the high ground on all these counts. With the difficulties the party has experienced in the last few years these qualities seem to me to be crucial. Additionally there is no substitute for experience. That is why I support Ken Clarke.

Yours sincerely,
HECTOR LAING,
High Meadows, Windsor Road,
Gerrards Cross, Buckinghamshire,
June 16.

From Mr Anthony Plant

Sir, The canvassing on behalf of the various candidates has led me to a firm conclusion: the Conservative Party should have resigned after the last election so that Mr Major could elect a new one.

Yours faithfully,
ANTHONY B. PLANT,
178 Clay Lane,
South Yardley, Birmingham.
tony.plant@compuserve.com
June 16.

World Service future

From the Managing Director of
BBC World Service

Sir, Brenda Maddox's description of the World Service as having been "dis-mantled from within" and left with only "the facade and some rooms at the back" (Media and Marketing, June 11) is not one that people in Bush House would recognise. It is also disappointing to see three former managing directors (letter, June 13) more at pains to depict World Service as having been wrecked than to join in celebrating its successes and looking forward to an exciting future.

A service which has just launched news in Cantonese on the Internet (and received 100,000 "hits" in one month), recently opened an FM service available in Zaire and the Congo and is about to launch a morning

drive-time radio programme across the US must, by any definition, have real substance.

Brenda Maddox also misunderstood the position on efficiency savings at BBC World Service. There is no question, after restructuring, of the BBC "hacking back" the savings for itself. All money from the grant-in-aid from the Foreign and Commonwealth Office is of course ring-fenced. The savings made will come directly to World Service and contribute to making us even more competitive and better able to deliver new and improved services to listeners.

Yours sincerely,
SAM YOUNGER,
Managing Director,
BBC World Service,
British Broadcasting Corporation,
Bush House,
PO Box 76, Strand, WC2.

Sales patter

From Mr Peter Moss

Sir, How strange that people should object to the phrase "There you go" (Mr Terry Sadler's letter, June 13) as used by shop assistants and others, when for years we have accepted the equally meaningless "There you are".

Yours faithfully,
PETER MOSS,
24 Quaggy Walk, Blackheath, SE3.

From Mr John Hudson

Sir, Here you are, Mr Sadler; but is this much more meaningful than "There you go"?

Yours faithfully,
JOHN HUDSON,
55 Gibbon Road,
Kingston upon Thames, Surrey.

From Mr W. A. Allison

Sir, Having purchased a pair of chinos from a large store in Detroit, I walked away from the till and heard the sales assistant say "Enjoy your pants".

I am pleased to say I have.
Yours faithfully,
ANDREW ALLISON,
Greenways, Eaton Lane,
Cotebrook, Tarporley, Cheshire,
June 13.

007's 'Q'

From Mr Andrew Lycett

Sir, By concentrating on films, the estimable Desmond Llewelyn (letter, June 6) does not tell the whole story. "Q" is to be found in Ian Fleming's original James Bond books, but not as an individual. Right from Fleming's first novel, *Casino Royale* (published in 1953), Q Branch (or Section) led Bond with an interesting array of gadgets.

In *Russia With Love* (1957), "Q's craftsmen" provide an "overnight bag" which includes a tube of Palmolive shaving cream — a tube of which unscrews to reveal the silencer of a Beretta pistol packed in cotton wool. Shortly before, a Glaswegian gun enthusiast called Geoffrey Boothroyd wrote to Fleming saying that Bond's preferred Beretta was a "ladies' gun" and Q07 needed something sturdier like a Smith & Wesson revolver.

Fleming acknowledged his debt by introducing a character, Major Boothroyd (otherwise known as the Armoured), in *Dr No* (1958), or four years before the first Broccoli/Saltzman Bond film.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW LYCETT
(author, *Ian Fleming*,
Weidenfeld & Nicolson, 1995),
34 Torbay Road, NW6.

Blair and human rights in Australia

From Mr Jeremy Hobbs and others

Sir, This week Mr Blair is to meet the Australian Prime Minister, Mr John Howard.

Our countries share a common heritage enshrining support for basic human rights for all, and recent statements by Mr Robin Cook indicate Britain's renewed determination to place ethics and human rights concerns at the centre of its foreign policy. We hope, therefore, that in his discussions Mr Blair will raise the new Australian Government's policies towards the indigenous people of this country.

The rights of these people have long been under assault. They suffer from lack of access to basic services such as healthcare, education, housing and clean water and sanitation. The result is appalling living standards, evidenced by high infant-mortality rates and a life expectancy for an average indigenous Australian about twenty years less than for the non-indigenous.

For indigenous Australians the connection to land is critical to material betterment. It is an avenue for great economic security and is of great cultural and spiritual importance. Yet the Australian Government is proposing legislation which could effectively extinguish their title over vast tracts of Australia.

Australians have recently been shocked by the revelation that our parents' generation perpetrated the systematic theft of Aboriginal children in the belief that it was for their own good (reports, June 12). If the Government's native-title plan succeeds, the wrongs of the past will be compounded by the extinction of the modest native title indigenous people have only recently acquired — effectively this would mean the second great land grab since Captain Arthur Phillip landed in 1788.

It is a cruel irony that the 1967 constitutional amendment, which gave Aboriginal people citizenship in their own country but also centralised their affairs under the Federal Government, could now be used to deprive them of their land.

It is increasingly clear that international pressure may be one of the few ways by which the Australian Government can be convinced to change course. As representatives of predominantly non-indigenous community organisations and unions in Australia, working closely with indigenous peoples, we urge Mr Blair to raise these issues with Mr Howard.

Yours sincerely,
JEREMY HOBBS
(Executive Director,
Community Aid Abroad,
(Oxfam in Australia)),
JENNIE GEORGE
(President, Australian Council of
Trade Unions),
PETER PERTH
(Anglican Archbishop of Perth),
KEVIN DANCE
(President, Australian Conference of
Leaders of Religious Institutes),
c/o Community Aid Abroad,
156 George Street,
Fitzroy, Victoria 3065,
June 16.

Run out

From Mr Daniel Lightman

Sir, In support of his prediction that the British electorate may in the future prefer substance over style, William Rees-Mogg ("The Oxbridge vote race", June 12) states that Geoffrey Boycott ended up making more runs than the far more stylish David Gower.

Not so. Before the selectors prematurely dropped him from the England side Gower, with 8,231 runs, had just crept past the Test career aggregate (8,114 runs) of the gritty Yorkshireman.

Throughout his career Gower's problem was that his panache led people to think him less effective than he was. It would appear from Rees-Mogg's article that this perception continues even in retirement.

Yours faithfully,
DANIEL LIGHTMAN,
13 Old Square, Lincoln's Inn, WC2,
June 13.

March of progress

From Mr Alan Birch

Sir, Has not the time come to amend Professor Parkinson's Law to "Work expands to meet the information technology capability available"?

Yours now in e-mail,
A. R. BIRCH,
39 Chawn Park Drive,
Stourbridge, West Midlands.
a.r.birch@lineone.net
June 16.

From Mr John Copeland

Sir, May I be among the first to congratulate you on the e-mail facility for the letters page.

A real benefit @The Times.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN COPELAND,
The Hall Yard,
Burton-by-Lincoln, Lincolnshire.
johncopeland@clara.net
June 16.

Letters should carry a daytime telephone number. They may be faxed to 0171-782-5046.
e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

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BUSINESS EDITOR Patience Wheatcroft

TUESDAY JUNE 17 1997

Windfall whirlwind sweeps Norwich and Nationwide

By MARIANNE CURPHEY
AND ANNE ASHWORTH

THE demutualisation windfall bonanza gathered pace yesterday with a minimum £1,000 payout for 1.8 million with-profit policyholders of Norwich Union, the insurer.

Meanwhile, the Nationwide, while still defending the merits of being a mutual, acted to deter speculators who believe that it will

be the next building society to become a bank.

Enthusiasm for the Woolwich flotation, due next month, has led to predictions of 332p as the opening price of the shares, giving a minimum windfall of £1,494. Earlier this year, the value of Woolwich shares was estimated at 175p to 200p.

In yesterday's first-day trading, Norwich Union shares rose 34½p above the initial strike price of 290p.

Those members who had subscribed for extra shares at a 25p-a-share discount to the institutional strike price of 290p saw a paper profit of almost 60p a share.

The heavily oversubscribed public offer meant there was strong demand for the stock. Within minutes of the start of trading, the shares had touched 356p. At the end of the first hour, the early enthusiasm dimmed a little. The stock

closed the day at 324½p. A total of 148 million shares changed hands.

Some institutions were building holdings gradually, believing that the price may fall again next Monday, when members who applied for extra shares receive their certificates and can deal for the first time.

The Nationwide, now the largest society after the Halifax conversion, yesterday raised the minimum initial investment on its accounts to

stem the flow of money from new customers. Its popular InvestDirect postal account now has a minimum of £2,000, up from £500.

Although some Nationwide branches are asking prospective savers to make appointments to open accounts, the society denied that raising the minimum sum was primarily intended to deter carpet-baggers, although raising the minimum sum has become societies'

most common weapon against speculators. The Nationwide preferred to emphasise the success of its recent savings initiative, which has attracted customers from the Halifax and the Alliance & Leicester.

Citing "unwelcome speculative activity", the Coventry, the tenth-biggest society, doubled the minimum for postal accounts to £2,000.

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BUSINESS TODAY

STOCK MARKET INDICES		
FTSE 100	4745.1	(-38.0)
Yield	3.46%	
FTSE All share	2248.67	(-18.44)
Nikkei	20481.07	(+152.72)
New York		
Dow Jones	7784.30	(+2.28)
S&P Composite	984.27	(+1.00)
US RATE		
Federal Funds	5½%	(5½%)
Long Bond	99½%	(98½%)
Yield	6.70%	(6.73%)
LONDON MONEY		
3mth interbank	6½%	(6½%)
Life long gilt	114½%	(114½%)
STERLING		
New York	1.6370*	(1.6357)
London		
\$	1.6382	(1.6354)
DM	2.6333	(2.6421)
FF	5.5338	(5.5907)
Sfr	2.3306	(2.3690)
Yen	185.88	(187.58)
£ index	100.0	(100.0)
DOLLAR		
London		
DM	1.7306*	(1.7365)
FF	5.6359*	(5.6900)
Sfr	2.4408*	(2.4435)
Yen	113.40*	(114.80)
£ index	102.3	(102.8)
Tokyo close Yen	114.30	
NORTH SEA OIL		
Brent 15-day (Sep)	\$16.10	(unc)
GOLD		
London close	\$342.05	(\$341.85)
* denotes midday trading price		

Owen quits NatWest over £90m 'black hole'

By ROBERT MILLER, BANKING CORRESPONDENT

MARTIN OWEN, chief executive of NatWest's troubled investment banking arm, quit his post yesterday. This, along with a warning on first-half profits, sent shares in the UK bank sharply lower and wiped £735 million off its market value.

Mr Owen, an active member of the Salvation Army who joined NatWest in 1983, was still negotiating his pay-off last night. It is expected that the bank will honour his one-year rolling contract based on a basic annual salary of £300,000. At the end of last year Mr Owen also held a special share executive option on 167,175 NatWest shares, which yesterday closed at 79p, having started the day at 76p and at one point touched 81½p.

Derek Wanless, group chief executive of NatWest, is to take on the additional responsibility for NatWest Markets (NWM), where he has already worked, as acting chief executive. City analysts last night questioned whether Mr Wanless could fulfil both roles effectively.

NatWest had been under pressure to let Mr Owen go since the banking group announced in March that it had uncovered a £90 million "black hole" in the interest rate options book at NatWest Markets. Six employees were suspended pending the outcome of an internal investigation and Mr Owen voluntarily gave up £200,000 of his £500,000 bonus for last year.

An internal report into the derivative losses will be completed this month and passed to the Bank of England and

the Securities and Futures Authority, the City watchdog for brokers and futures dealers. The Serious Fraud Office is keeping a "watching brief" on the NWM situation.

Mr Owen oversaw the rapid expansion of NWM during his reign as chief executive, spending more than \$1 billion since October 1995 on a series of American acquisitions and on Gartmore, the successful UK fund manager.

Mr Wanless denied yesterday that NWM was to be sold and said that a strategic review was being carried out to improve "controls and risk management wherever necessary, and to focus on speeding up progress towards acceptable returns in key business areas".

He added: "This is not a lack of commitment to investment banking. We want to make sure that there is strong leadership and a clear direction for the business so that we make the most out of our acquisitions and a better return for our shareholders. Martin Owen and I both decided that it was proper to have a new chief executive."

Mr Owen did not go to his NWM office yesterday but went straight to NatWest Bank's headquarters in the City where his NatWest career was effectively finished.

NatWest, which recently brokered off merger talks with Abbey National, also admitted the problems at NWM would push first-half profits down to £770 million, below last year's figure.

Johnny de la Haye, a bank analyst at Credit Lyonnais Laing (CLL), the broker, said profit estimates for NWM in the first half of this year, to be announced in early August, were £150 million compared with £261 million in the same period last year. The CLL forecast does not take into account the final £77 million loss attributed to the NWM interest rate options book.

Mr de la Haye, who said underlying costs at NWM were still rising by as much as 20 per cent, added: "We believe this will lead to a significant downsizing of NWM's operations."

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Last chance, page 31



Martin Owen, chief executive of NWM, has been under pressure since the discovery of derivative losses in March that led to six staff suspensions

Beckett accuses US on aviation aid

FROM OLIVER AUGUST IN PARIS

MARGARET BECKETT, President of the Board of Trade, said America is infringing a 1992 trade agreement with Europe and called for a response from the US Government. She said Airbus, British Aerospace, and other European aviation companies are operating at a disadvantage because American companies receive more government aid than is allowed under the trade agreement.

Mrs Beckett ruled out a trade war over the issue but told *The Times*: "We are mindful of international trade. It is quite straightforward; trade needs to be carried out under fair competition. That's all we're asking. No more, no less." Under the agreement, governments on both sides of the Atlantic commit themselves to limiting the level of direct and indirect subsidies. After talks with BAE and other UK aerospace companies, Mrs Beckett has come to the

conclusion that the US government is assisting its aircraft makers in contravention of the agreement. She has backed the EU's strongly worded letter to the US Government.

At the Paris Air Show, she met executives from BAE, GEC, and Rolls-Royce, who are lobbying the UK Government for an extra annual £100 million aid for research and development. She said: "The message from the Government is that we recognise the prime importance of the aerospace industry. This is a market place where UK companies can compete." The Government has not made a decision on the aid, she said: "We will look at it with great care." The package is currently being assessed by the DTI and the Ministry of Defence, which are being asked by the companies to split the £100 million between them.

Commentary, page 29

British Steel joins call for higher taxes

BRITISH STEEL has joined the call for higher tax rates to dampen the economy, as opposed to interest rate rises that would bolster sterling's strength (Christine Buckley writes).

The company, which as a large exporter suffers from a soaring pound, added its voice to the Confederation of British Industry and the British Chambers of Commerce. The business groups are pressing the Chancellor for fiscal measures to calm the economy rather than monetary intervention.

British Steel suffered a £400 million cost from the high pound and weak steel prices. Believing that sterling will remain high against the mark, the company is implementing a restructuring programme that will shed thousands of jobs. It is also squeezing suppliers for price reductions in a move likely to damage and close a number of small companies.

Raise taxes, page 28

Clarke sees cut in NAO review

By PAUL DURMAN AND ANNE ASHWORTH

KENNETH CLARKE, the former Chancellor, said yesterday he believed the National Audit Office's review of the public finances will show a cut in the Government's growth forecasts for the economy.

The Treasury is set to publish the NAO report on Thursday. It has been suggested that the report will reveal a public funding gap of billions of pounds, potentially threatening Labour's election pledges.

Mr Clarke said yesterday that the suggestion that the Government would claim to have found a black hole running into billions of pounds implied the Treasury was planning to cut the assumed growth rate from 2½ to 2¼ per cent.

The NAO was asked to examine the assumptions that underpin the Government's financial forecasting. Mr Clarke said the NAO, which usually assesses whether the Government has got value for money on spending projects,

had no track record or expertise in this area.

The market is now expecting that Labour will announce a 5 per cent reduction in the dividend tax credit in the Budget. Analysis carried out for *The Times* shows this would bring a loss of £74 each to the 19 million people saving in pension schemes.

Their total loss from this much rumoured measure would be some £1.4 billion. This is roughly equivalent to 1 per cent increase in income tax. Other groups such as personal equity plan (PEP) holders, higher rate taxpayers and charities would be £600 million worse off. The Chancellor would gain £2 billion.

Calculations by Chantrey Vellacon, the accountant, on the impact of a 5 per cent reduction in the rate of the dividend tax credit show PEP holders would be £33 worse off.

Commentary, page 29

Unit trusts look into new award scheme

By CAROLINE MERRELL

UNIT trust companies are looking into the introduction of a new compensation programme, which would be on top of the existing Investors Compensation Scheme, in the wake of the Peter Young affair at Deutsche Morgan Grenfell (DMG).

The scheme will aim to increase the maximum amount that can be paid out per claim. Under the terms of the Investors Compensation Scheme, the level of payment is limited to £48,000. However, many unit trust investors may now have investments that far exceed this limit.

Under the new "mutual" compensation scheme, each unit trust company would pay a certain amount into a pool to cover the type of losses incurred by DMG last year. The scheme could also involve unit trust companies taking out insurance policies to cover losses.

DMG was forced to pay 200,000 investors a total of £220 million in compensation after the suspension of three European trusts managed by Mr Young.

The total bill for Deutsche Bank, DMG's German owner, is believed to have reached £430 million. Other unit trust companies do not have such financially strong parent companies.

The impetus for the new move comes from the unit trust companies via the Association of Unit Trusts and Investment Funds.



Wanless taking over

Railtrack on collision course with Ofrail

By CARL MORTIMER

RAILTRACK was on a collision course with its regulator last night that could ultimately lead to intervention by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission.

Sir Robert Horton, Railtrack's chairman, yesterday gave a flat refusal to a request for amendments to the rail utility's licence aimed at increasing its accountability to John Swift, the rail

regulator. He said that proposals for a licence amendment would lead to "more bureaucracy, second guessing of decisions and a loss of flexibility". Sir Robert was responding to a letter from Mr Swift, who two weeks ago criticised Railtrack for its low investment. Mr Swift asked it to agree to strengthen the obligations in its licence.

Mr Swift yesterday said he noted with regret that Railtrack had rejected

his proposals. He said: "I remain of the belief that it is appropriate to increase Railtrack's accountability in the way I am proposing and do not believe that it would lead to the detriments suggested by Railtrack."

There are only two ways to change Railtrack's licence: by consent between the company and the regulator or, if the company refuses, by Mr Swift referring the matter to the MMC to

determine whether the changes are in the public interest. Ofrail, the Office of the Rail Regulator, said last night that the MMC was the final option.

Mr Swift wants to explore the matter further with Railtrack. Sir Robert said he would work with the regulator to achieve greater transparency in the company's plans and outputs.

Tempus, page 30

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1766-1832

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Raise taxes not interest rates, says British Steel

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BRITISH STEEL yesterday called for higher taxes to be used to control the economy rather than interest rate rises that may strengthen sterling further. The call followed full-year results that showed £400 million of damage to profits from the pound and weak European steel prices.

Further damage is expected to show in the current half-year as the full effect of the rise in sterling feeds through. Sir Brian Moffat, chairman and chief executive, said: "I would prefer higher taxes to higher interest rates... there have got to be some fiscal measures brought to bear to balance the thing out."

The company has pressed its case in a submission to Gordon Brown, the Chancellor, who delivers the Budget next month. Although exchange rates and European steel prices are linked, as they are market-determined, it is thought that the pure effect of the UK's strong currency dealt a £100 million blow to the company.

British Steel is in the throes of a huge restructuring to counter the effects of the strong pound, which hits the company substantially because it is a heavy exporter. Last year it cut 1,500 jobs while this year the toll is likely to be more than 2,000. More than 10,000 are expected to go in a five-year programme.

Jobs and businesses will

also be on the line in the 2,000 or so companies that supply British Steel. The company is in talks with its suppliers to squeeze their prices by what is thought to be more than 10 per cent as it drives to cut its costs across the business. Many small companies that act as local suppliers to British Steel's four main plants are dependent on the company for their livelihood.

Sir Brian underlined British Steel's commitment to step up production overseas where costs are cheaper but he said the company had no intention of scaling down operations in the UK. He said he wanted to see international production deliver 25 per cent of sales within five years. At present operating and planned plants account for about 11 per cent of revenue.

In the year to March 31, British Steel's pre-tax profits more than halved to £451 million from £1.1 billion. Avesta, the Swedish stainless steel subsidiary, proved a large drain on profits incurring a loss of £7 million last year against a £238 million profit in the previous year after delayed commissioning and rationalisation costs. British Steel took on Avesta as a 51 per cent subsidiary in November 1995.

The dividend was held at 10p for the year with a final payment of 7p due August 11.

Tempus, page 30



Industrial beauty: Harry Platt, managing director of London Industrial, left, with Alan Porter, chairman, lifted pre-tax profit by 16 per cent to £4.8 million in the year to March 31. Earnings rose 16 per cent to 24.7p and the total dividend rises 15 per cent to 15p. The company's net asset value rose 21 per cent to £4.17 a share. The shares rose 7p to 339½p

Think-tank in jobs criticism

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

NEW jobs in Britain for the unemployed are bad jobs, according to an independent employment study today.

The report says Labour's welfare to work programme will have to improve on the poor performance of previous government schemes.

A new analysis today from the Independent Employment Policy Institute, a jobs think-tank with links to Labour,

shows that, though the number of professional and managerial jobs is growing, the jobs being taken by unemployed people are predominantly low grade, low status, low paid and low security.

John Philpott, EPI director, says that Britain's structural problems of joblessness are deep-seated: "Stifling workless families and the hidden unemployed into jobs will cost

money, take time and require persistence, patience and political will."

The research was carried out for the EPI by Paul Gregg and Jonathan Wadsworth of the Centre for Economic Performance at the London School of Economics.

Employment Audit, Summer 1997, EPI, Southbank House, Black Prince Road, London SE1. By subscription.

Energy chief quits after row over role

By CHRISTINE BUCKLEY, INDUSTRIAL CORRESPONDENT

BOB HAWLEY, chief executive of British Energy, has quit in a surprise boardroom dispute just weeks before he would have been awarded generous share options.

Mr Hawley is leaving the nuclear generator, which has been in the private sector for less than a year, after the board doused his ambitions to be chairman. John Robb, the current chairman, is to be acting chief executive until a successor is found.

Mr Hawley is expected to take a payout of about £450,000 after resigning two years before the expiry of his contract. But he will get none of the share options that are to be allocated next month. After the scandals surrounding cheaply priced share options in other privatisations, the Government ruled that British Energy executive perks should not be applicable until a year after the company was floated last July.

Mr Hawley, who is said by industry insiders to be difficult to work with, is not expected to work after today although he officially departs at the end of the month. Discussions on his future role have been under way for some time but the board made clear he would not be considered for the chairman's post.

Mr Robb, 61, is expected to remain as chairman for 18 months to two years. The board is understood to have told Mr Hawley, 60, that it wanted someone younger as chairman to take the company forward. British Energy said that Mr Hawley would be pursuing "other interests".

BUSINESS ROUNDUP

Abbey confirms Cater Allen talks

ABBNEY NATIONAL confirmed yesterday that it is in talks to buy Cater Allen, the financial services group. Cater Allen's share price has risen sharply since it announced on June 5 that it was in talks with an anonymous potential bidder. Yesterday it closed at 547.5p, having fallen slightly from 550p. Abbey National fell from 895.5p to 868p amid a general fall in the banking sector. Cater Allen's activities used to revolve around its role as a discount house acting as an intermediary for the Bank of England in the money markets. They now include banking, with profitable offshore operations in Jersey and the Isle of Man. It also owns an execution-only stockbroking service and Aitken Campbell, the Glasgow broker, as well as managing several funds analysts yesterday forecast a price of £200 million. Cater Allen has a market capitalisation of about £170 million. The deal would be part of a broad ongoing shift away from traditional savings and mortgages operations at Abbey National.

US telecoms takeover

MCLEODUSA has agreed to buy Consolidated Communications, a telecommunications holding company, in a deal valued at about \$420 million. McLeodUSA, based in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, provides telecommunications services and competes with regional Baby Bell companies and GTE Corp. McLeodUSA Inc. would have about 200,000 local lines, 4,000 employees and 3,700 miles of fibre-optic lines in a 14-state region, and publish 12 million phone directories a year.

Upgrading by brewery

WOLVERHAMPTON & Dudley Breweries is "radically upgrading" its draught lager portfolio to provide consumers and trade customers with a wider choice of leading brands. The upgrade will cost £26 million over four years. The changes will significantly improve the company's competitive position in retail and wholesale markets. The range includes Foster's and Heineken cold filtered. The two brands will replace Harp, Wolverhampton's standard lager since the 1960s.

LSB edges ahead

LONDON SCOTTISH BANK raised pre-tax profits 0.1 per cent to £4.3 million in the six months to April 30. The half-year dividend rises 14.7 per cent to 0.975p out of earnings static at 2.6p. The board said the debt collection and reinsurance division's operating profits continue to grow. Consumer credit profits rose 41 per cent to £1.7 million and debt collection rose 32 per cent to £1.4 million. Reinsurance rose 27 per cent to £1.2 million.

New link for Ireland

THE Republic of Ireland's rail network will form the backbone of a second communications system, under a joint venture between CIE, the state-owned transport group, and Esat Telecom, the communications company. The agreement involves the laying of a fibre optic network under the existing rail system. The new network will be allowed to service only businesses until 2000 when the state-controlled Telecom Eireann is due to give up its monopoly on residential services.

London Bridge talks

SHARES in London Bridge Software rose 12p to 332½p after the group said it was in talks on a "significant" acquisition that was likely to be funded by a rights issue. The computer software and services group promised that a further announcement would be made by July 4. London Bridge gave an indication of the size of the deal by indicating that the acquisition would be classified as super class one. At last night's closing price London Bridge is worth £75 million.

PowerGen venture

POWERGEN furthered its international expansion yesterday by securing a long-term power deal in Hungary which will lead to the development of a £160 million power plant. A subsidiary of PowerGen in Budapest has struck an agreement with the Hungarian state electricity supply operation to supply power for 20 years. The new plant, which will be built next to a station already owned by PowerGen, will come on stream in the millennium.

Celtic hand-out fear

CELTIC ENERGY, the producer of anthracite coal, has warned of job losses because of subsidies given to German mining companies. Celtic is lobbying Europe and the Government over subsidies offered by the German Government. Keith McNair, chief executive, said: "We are facing unfair competition from Germany, where two leading anthracite producers have had... subsidies of over £100 million. They are able to sell their coal at well below cost prices."

TOURIST RATES

Bank	Sells	Bank	Sells	Bank	Sells	Bank	Sells
Australia \$	2.28	Belgium Fr	19.28	Denmark Kr	0.683	France Fr	0.683
Austria Sch	20.82	Canada \$	56.57	Germany DM	3.361	Italy Lit	0.082
Belgium Fr	51.21	Cyprus Cyp	2.20	Japan Yen	12.49	Netherlands Gld	2.30
Canada \$	2.275	Czech Kor	0.814	Norway Kr	2.48	Portugal Esc	207.00
Cyprus Cyp	0.881	Danish Kr	10.48	Spain Ptas	166.64	Sweden Kr	27.50
Denmark Kr	11.21	Deutsche M	8.29	Switzerland Sfr	0.85	Switzerland Sfr	0.85
Deutsche M	8.39	France Fr	9.37	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
France Fr	9.37	Germany DM	8.29	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Germany DM	8.29	Greece Dr	473	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Greece Dr	473	Hong Kong \$	12.27	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Hong Kong \$	12.27	Iceland Kr	107	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Iceland Kr	107	Ireland P	1.13	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Ireland P	1.13	Israel Sh	5.80	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Israel Sh	5.80	Italy Lit	2716	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Italy Lit	2716	Japan Yen	198.70	Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00
Japan Yen	198.70			Taiwan NT	13.48	USA \$	2.00

Notes for small denomination bank notes are supplied by Barclays Bank PLC. Different rates apply to travellers' cheques. Rates as at close of trading yesterday.

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The Sunday Times, with Slazenger, is giving away 15,000 three-ball tubes of exclusive Wimbledon Hi-Vis tennis balls. The tubes are worth £5.99 each.

Slazenger has been Wimbledon's sole supplier of tennis balls since 1902 and the Hi-Vis ball has been hand tested to the LTA's exacting standards for pressure, appearance and bounce. It contains high levels of fluorescent dye to give players such as Tim Henman, above, that split second longer to react and allows audiences a clearer view of the action.

If you collected the token which appeared with a voucher in the Style section of The Sunday Times yesterday, simply collect the second token from Style next Sunday and three differently numbered tokens from The Times, one of which must be from the Wimbledon supplement appearing on Monday June 23. Tokens will appear in The Times each day this week. Attach all five tokens to the voucher, and present it at a Sports Division store before July 5. You will receive a free tube of three Hi-Vis balls, subject to stock availability at the time of your visit. To find your local Sports Division store call 0800 146 542.



Peer wins control of Finnish sports group

By JON ASHWORTH

LORD MOYNE, better known as Jonathan Guinness, sometime writer and merchant banker, has clinched control of Amer, a Finnish sporting goods group, which sells Wilson golf equipment and tennis rackets.

The peer is paying £301 million (£35 million) for a majority stake, and is likely to become chairman. Separately, he is paying £250m (£20 million) for a controlling interest in Trusor, a Swedish investment company with of-

fices in London. The peer, 67, has adopted a low corporate profile since 1988 when he resigned as a non-executive director of Guinness after 27 years. He was a director of Leopold Joseph, the merchant bank, from 1964 to 1991.

Educated at Eton and Oxford, he did a three-year stint with Reuters in the early 1950s. He once stood for Parliament when he suggested that razor blades should be placed in the cells of convicted murderers.

Confidence eases in commercial property

By PHILIP BASSETT, INDUSTRIAL EDITOR

GROWTH in Britain's commercial property market is slackening, the Confederation of British Industry said yesterday.

Commercial property confidence remains positive, though it is easing back, according to the CBI's latest survey carried out with Grimley, the international property advisers.

A net balance of 1 per cent of 564 companies surveyed plan to increase their property holdings over the next six

months, the survey shows. This compares with a positive balance of 6 per cent in January. The largest increases in property are expected to be among smaller companies, while larger firms expect to reduce their holdings by the end of the year.

Sudhir Jnanankar, CBI associate director of economic analysis, said: "The slightly lower confidence in the commercial property market reflects the less buoyant overall optimism of companies."

CALPers tightens director test

By JASON NISSE

CALPers, the giant Californian state pension fund, is to bring in a new, stricter code of corporate governance to bolster its affirmative action campaign on leading companies.

The code is aimed at strengthening the role of non-executive directors by giving a tougher definition of when a director is considered independent. There will be ten pointers to when a director is independent and the fund, with \$113 billion under management, will vote against so-called independent directors who do not meet the test.

CALPers has recently attacked underperforming US companies such as Apple and Reebok. Kayla Gillen, CALPers' general counsel, thought the majority of the 300 companies that the group monitors closely do not meet its new performance criteria.

Sainsbury's to open all night

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

J SAINSBURY will introduce all-night shopping in 25 of its biggest supermarkets from the end of this month.

The stores, ten of which are in London with the rest in cities and large towns around the country, will stay open continuously from 8am on Friday to 10pm on Saturday, starting on June 27.

The move follows a lengthy trial in several of its stores around the country. Other supermarkets, including Asda, Sainsbury's and Tesco, have also been experimenting with all-night shopping, which is widespread in the US.

Sainsbury's, which is chaired by David Sainsbury, said that over 50 per cent of the grocery shoppers it has interviewed in the past few months said they favoured 24-hour shopping, with over half of these preferring to shop late on Fridays.



Sainsbury's positive response

Kevin McCarten, marketing director, said: "Many of our customers vary their shopping patterns for a number of reasons, but our research shows that most late-night shoppers are single men and shift workers, who prefer to shop late at the end of the week."

Tobacco attacked in Canada

By JASON NISSE

A CANADIAN province has paved the way for litigation against tobacco companies to recoup medical costs, the first time that this action has been taken outside the US.

In the US, leading cigarette makers — including BAT Industries — are in talks with the Government about a \$30 billion deal to settle tobacco litigation pending in 37 states.

Yesterday, British Columbia said it will bring in a law to allow similar legal actions in the Canadian province. However its government said that it would first ask tobacco companies to offer a voluntary payment and to admit that cigarettes were addictive and caused cancer, lung disease and heart disease.

The province estimates that it spends £500 million (£150 million) a year on treating smoking-related illnesses.

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NatWest's credit overdrawn



COMMENTARY
by our City Editor

NatWest is having a bad run. Down £90 million on dodgy derivatives trading, spurned by Abbey National and the current whipping of the stock market, the bank has had a bruising time. But with a determination to think positive, Derek Wanless, chief executive, yesterday trumpeted the creation of a new Investment Banking Group for Europe.

Sadly, this development was rapidly eclipsed by the more headline-grabbing news of the departure of Martin Owen. A few lessons from the Mandelson school of news management might prove beneficial at Louthbury.

The European move shows determination to find a *raison d'être* for the business that Lord Alexander of Weedon and his cheque book have been assembling. The idea is to make NatWest a force in corporate finance, with George Magan and Alton Irby as joint chief executives. NatWest markets has the expensive corporate finance fire power, and the bank has the corporate clients, the sort of synergy that M&A brokers earn fat fees to point out. But it has not yet produced the deal flow.

If the new structure fails to drum up business, there could soon be a more dramatic restructuring of NatWest than Mr Owen's departure heralds. When £90 million goes missing, someone has to be held responsible. In NatWest's case, it

had to be Mr Owen. The chief executive of NatWest Markets had already gallantly volunteered to hand back £200,000 of his £500,000 bonus but, while he may have felt that he was getting 60 per cent of his job right, the other 40 per cent mattered too.

Mr Owen's management looks to have been lax. If he did not know what was going on in the gambling den of the dealing room, he should have done, or at least had systems in place which would have picked up the problem sooner: the intimations from NatWest are that the exciting approach to derivatives trading was not a momentary aberration.

Now there will be platitudes about tightening up on compliance and risk, but all will be meaningless unless NatWest can find the right person to replace Mr Owen, and quickly. One can hardly believe that Derek Wanless was under-employed until yesterday, so his taking on direct responsibility for NatWest markets can only be for a brief period. What is now required, to give the right message both internally and externally, is someone who is tough on compliance, tough on the need for compliance.

There can be few people with the right experience who cur-

rently find themselves at a loose end, but NatWest has the headhunters on their trail.

The problems of policing trade in the City cannot be over-estimated and even the most sophisticated systems cannot contend with every ruse that a rogue trader may employ. But banks are beginning to realise that they need to invest more in the systems and the people to do the job. Mr Owen's successor will not come cheap.

Political look at a black hole

Prepare to be appalled. A black hole totalling billions of pounds has suddenly appeared in the public finances — or so say sources who have a good record of being close to the Labour spin doctors. The National Audit Office has looked at the state of the nation's books, and did not like what it read

there. For confirmation of this analysis, we have only to wait until publication of the NAO report on Thursday, although it already looks tediously predictable. When Frank Dobson, the Health Secretary, was forced on to the back foot last week, he immediately sought to use the worse-than-expected financial "crisis" he had found in the NHS as the justification for considering a new range of charges. Gordon Brown may be about to offer us more of the same.

Far from marking a new openness in public finance, the whole NAO exercise looks depressingly political. Within its narrow terms of reference, the most important topic considered by the NAO was the Government's assumption about the trend for economic growth. Kenneth Clarke, the former Chancellor, says this is the only area that can throw up the missing "billions" that might reconcile the public to the need

for tax rises. Mr Clarke's last set of Budget arithmetic benefited from his revision of the long-term trend from 2½ to 2½ per cent.

Whether or not this is correct is frankly unknowable. Economists can debate the point endlessly, but it will eventually come down to a matter of opinion, a political judgment. The irony is, if Mr Brown and his team have persuaded the NAO that 2½ per cent is the more appropriate assumption, such a move would contradict the professed benefits of Labour's economic management.

Similarly, it would be very odd for Labour to overturn Mr Clarke's assumption that unemployment will fall. The previous assumption of level unemployment was simply a political convenience that allowed past administrations to avoid owning up to feared reality of rising numbers of jobless.

More suspect than the growth

assumptions were Mr Clarke's forecasts of the growth in government spending. The last Red Book projected history-beating growth of substantially less than 1 per cent over each of the next three years. With the new Government facing so many demands from its supporters, this will prove Labour's most important test.

Folly to axe dividend relief

There is no such thing as a cost-free tax. Gordon Brown will soon discover that if the Treasury manages to persuade him to slash tax relief on dividends for pension funds, as it is trailing, on the politically correct but mistaken ground that it would encourage a switch from dividends to investment.

There is no cash constraint on most quoted companies investing more. But the cost of pensions is a major constraint on employment. It would jump dramatically if returns to company contributions are cut.

For savers in money purchase schemes, a cut in dividend returns will simply cut future pensions, because it will cut

share prices. That is because most final salary schemes are valued actuarially on the present value of future dividends, so that axing relief makes both shares and funds worth less.

That is inconvenient for Chancellors and might be challenged by companies. But trustees, who have been both empowered and burdened by the Pensions Act 1995, would surely not go along.

Many funds will therefore lose surpluses, forcing companies to resume or raise contributions, thereby cutting the net Revenue gain. In many more, funds will become technically insolvent under the Act's new tests. Companies would have to inject capital, attracting relief that might well eliminate most extra tax revenue for years.

That should dissuade the Chancellor. But it may take howls from charities, the other main losers, to put him right.

Oh-ah Pierson

JEAN PIERSON, managing director of Airbus, is giving every indication of being the aerospace industry's answer to Eric Cantona. At the Paris air show he has been throwing round the insults, accusing directors of Boeing and McDonnell Douglas of criminal conspiracy. He went on to attack the exclusivity deals that are crucial to an industry where every development requires huge investment. When Airbus needs friends, M Pierson is creating enemies.

Warning on sterling hits Psion launch

By ADAM JONES

SHARES in Psion, the handheld computer maker, dropped by almost a fifth yesterday after a negative trading statement clouded the launch of its most sophisticated product so far.

Psion gave warning that performance is being hit by the strength of sterling, and a drop in orders for its established products in anticipation of the state-of-the-art series 5 computer's introduction.

David Potter, Psion founder and chairman, said sales of the series 3 range had slowed in May and June, and that sales of its Siena pocket computer were disappointing. "The performance of the group will be affected until the series 5 becomes established."

Psion has more than half of its sales overseas by turnover, leaving it vulnerable to the strong pound. The shares started the day at 505p but closed at 407½p. One analyst dropped profit forecasts from £22 million to £16.5 million before tax. Psion made £16 million pre-tax profits last year.

The series 5 personal organiser offers internet access, an e-mail facility, compatibility with Windows 95, a dictaphone, an improved keyboard and a touch-sensitive screen. In the United Kingdom, it will sell for £440 to £500. The company hopes to be selling 40,000 units a month by October.

The series 5 and its new 32-bit operating system cost more than £25 million to develop. The operating system has already been licensed to an unnamed electronics manufacturer, not thought to be a direct competitor in the handheld computing market, with other deals in the pipeline. Licensing income is expected to make a material impact on profits in 1998-99. The Series 5 is expected to contribute 40-50 per cent of annual turnover by next year.

The new range faces competition from rivals using Microsoft's new operating system for handheld computers, Windows CE.

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Bid report boosts T&N share price

By PAUL DURMAN

SHARES in T&N, the motor component maker, jumped by 15 per cent yesterday on suggestions that it will soon face a £1 billion takeover bid.

Nearly 12.7 million shares were traded as speculators reacted to a weekend report that Dana Corporation, a big US parts manufacturer, is preparing a bid with Federal Mogul, a smaller competitor. T&N shares touched a peak of 166p, before easing to 159p, 21p up on the day.

T&N's market value has, for years, been depressed by the huge cost of settling asbestosis liabilities, capped last year by insurance.

Robert Speed, a Henderson Crosthwaite analyst, said a bid would have to be £1 or so over the current share price. The stock had been "mispriced".

Reshuffle at Tring is voted down

By SARAH CUNNINGHAM

SHAREHOLDERS in Tring International yesterday voted down an attempt to unseat the budget music company's board.

Mark Frey, a co-founder of the business and school friend of Philip Robinson, the chief executive, questioned yesterday's extraordinary meeting after teaming up with Jay Chernow, a large shareholder. Between them they own about 20 per cent of the company.

However, the shareholders voted almost two to one against putting Mr Frey on the board and four to one against removing Mr Robinson. Mr Frey, a former joint chief executive, resigned from the company in 1995 after disagreeing with his old school friend about strategy.

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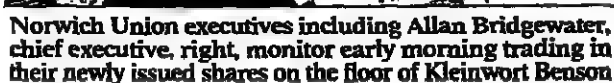
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HONDA

Worries on windfall tax overshadow NU debut



Rank, the holidays and entertainment group, braved the bumpy market conditions to claw back some of the ground lost last week. Shares put on 10p in early dealings before easing to end at 334p, up 1p.

Rank is not alone among leisure businesses to be cold-shouldered by investors. The leisure and hotel sector has underperformed the market in recent months, in spite of solid trading from a number of groups. The fall in Rank's price was overdone, say some analysts, and the fall in its price may tempt buyers back into the market, on hopes that the management can deliver.

Ladbroke held firm at 249p, while Granada, another broker favourite, ended 19p lower at 872½p.

Among smaller leisure stocks, Inspirations put on 4p to 72½p, while awaiting possible bid moves. First Leisure was also in demand before results this month, and ended at 334p, up 8p, while Caspian edged up 1½p to 26½p. Among hotels, Hanover International found a buyer for 125p after last week's profits warning, closing at 125p, up 3½p.

GILT-EDGED: The gilt market was quiet, but the index-linked sector was more buoyant on the expectation that more investors would switch out of equities if the dividend tax credit were abolished. In futures, the September series of the long gilt ended up £9.32 at £114¹⁵/₃₂ on a volume of 33,000. Treasury 8 per cent 2000 edged up £.32 to £103¹¹/₃₂, while in longer Treasury 8 per cent 2015 moved up £10.32 to £109³/₃₂.

□ **NEW YORK:** The Dow Jones industrial average fell slightly as investors took profits. At midday, the index was down 2.26 points at 7,784.30.

FALLS:	
Pelon	407¢ (-97¢)
Innovative Tech	323¢ (-33¢)
Catfish	250¢ (-24¢)
Formstar	132¢ (-9¢)
H Ramsdorn	395¢ (-22¢)
Rolls Royce	254¢ (-14¢)
Nest West	753¢ (-41¢)
Logica	727¢ (-32¢)
Shield Dtag	522¢ (-22¢)
GRE	278¢ (-10¢)
DCS Group	277¢ (-10¢)
Prudential	615¢ (-21¢)
MEPC	501¢ (-16¢)
Royal Bank Scot	624¢ (-20¢)
Bank Scotland	624¢ (-20¢)
Abn-Amst	633¢ (-17¢)
Vanguard	542¢ (-25¢)
GLS	683¢ (-17¢)
Standard Chart	829¢ (-23¢)

Closing Prices Page 34

BESET from all sides, Railtrack and its chairman have rushed out of the corner growing. Sir Robert Horton's response to the rail regulator's request for a licence amendment is a very loud "no", with the inference that such bureaucratic meddling and "second-guessing of decisions" would not be welcome in a dynamic company like Railtrack.

BESSET from all sides, Railtrack and its chairman have rushed out of the corner growing. Sir Robert Hoon's response to the rail regulator's request for a licence amendment is a very loud "no", with the inference that such bureaucratic meddling and "second-guessing of decisions" would not be welcome in a dynamic company like Railtrack.

This is not a wise move for a company that is deeply unpopular with a Government that has just won a landslide majority. Sir Robert may resent the notion that the regulator, John Swift, should have the power to second-guess Railtrack's investment decisions. But such a move is preferable to the danger of a corporation meeting the fate of some future Rail Authority, in thrall to the Department of Transport.

Railtrack has some strong arguments to counter its critics but the strongest is the

British Steel

GLOOM is British Steel's preferred mood but behind the public sackcloth and ashes, the company does a pretty good job of delivering results. Profits crumbled in the year ending March as was expected given the slide in the steel price and the strong pound. What was unexpected was the strength of British Steel's cashflow, which was well above City forecasts.

British Steel paid out £480 million in tax and dividends last year and invested £410 million, a rate of 1.4 times depreciation, but was still left with funds to salt away after a rotten year's trading. By working its capital well, reducing stocks and debtors. The company saved £200 million, exactly the sort of action that should be taken when margins are being squeezed.

Unfortunately, British

Government's need for infrastructure investment. The same minister who berated Railtrack a fortnight ago for its low investment has been asking City investment bankers for advice on how to lure private capital into the London Underground. The simple answer to John Prescott's question is: set a reasonable rate of return and institutions will invest. Railtrack would demand love to get its paws on a piece of the London Underground. It already snarls at infrastructure with the Tubes but if Railtrack continues to snarl at attempts to increase regulation. It could find itself facing the scrutiny of the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. Its performance regime could be tightened and it will be ruled out of any Tube privatisation goodies. Until the tone changes, Railtrack shares will go nowhere.

key issue is the dividend. If the company can maintain the payout, the yield is an attractive 8 per cent, but if the pound heads to DM3, the payout could be threatened. However, British Steel has three years worth of dividend sitting in the bank and the company has every reason not to ruin its reputation. An interesting recovery play.



THE City cannot seem to decide what a fair value for Norwich Union should be, analysts' estimates ranging from 280p to 340p but some of those assumptions must contain an element of big speculation. After yesterday's launch, the share price seems to be on the side of the bulls but with enthusiasm waning as the day wore on.

THE City cannot seem to decide what a fair value for Norwich Union should be. Analysts' estimates range from 280p to 340p but some of those assumptions must contain an element of big speculation. After yesterday's launch, the share price seems to be on the side of the bulls but with enthusiasm waning as the day wore on.

There are still strong rumours that a predator is waiting to pounce on Norwich Union. But bidders are likely to wait: NU shares may well drift downwards as members who applied for extra shares wait for their certificates before they sell.

On a yield basis, NU looks attractive at just over 4 per cent, compared with Prudential at 3.5 per cent and Legat & General at 3.2 per cent.

Earnings growth will come from Norwich Union's life division. With pension sales set to grow strongly as the population ages, life com-

panies are well-regarded by the City at present. That leaves a bidder for NU with the dilemma of what to do with general insurance. Disposal is the obvious choice but without the insurer's

valuable brand name, a vendor would get little and Norwich Union could never share its brand with a third party. For the patient, NU is a long term bet but expect no fireworks.

Psion

ALAN SUGAR must be laughing his socks off. Only a year ago Psion was seen as the dashing go-head company that was going to take over Sugar's Amstrad in a £250 million deal. But the talks fell apart because BZW, Psion's advisers, thought Amstrad too expensive.

Now Sugar has shown that his business is worth more than £400 million and Psion, after yesterday's 19.4 per cent share price collapse, is worth a little more than £300 mil-

Indeed the Psion founder must be wondering what he can do right. He launches a superb new product — the competition-beating series 5 — and then sees the City take an axe to profit forecasts as he admits that the new product will hit sales of the existing series 3. Not surprisingly consumers are becoming lead about the rapid product cycle of Psion, where a computer selling for £300 two years ago is now virtually obsolete.

Psion's share price fall exactly mirrors the profits downgrades for this year — cutting forecasts from £22 million to £16 million. The ratings remain intact — but for how long? Holders should bail out.

EDITED BY CARL MORTISHED

WALL STREET

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67	William Hinch	20	12	Scherer Philip	10
68	William Hinch	20	12	Scherer Philip	10
69	Womack Sam	19	12	Scherer Philip	10
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Last chance for NatWest's global dream

Robert Miller looks at the woes afflicting the clearer's investment banking arm — and its fightback strategy

At two o'clock yesterday, NatWest's head office in the City announced that Martin Owen, the beleaguered head of NatWest Markets, the clearer's investment banking arm, had resigned.

Ever since Mr Owen had to admit, in March, that a £90 million black hole had been discovered in its interest rate options book, there had been speculation about what the bank could do to turn around the fortunes of NatWest Markets, whose profits will show a sharp fall this year from the £462 million it made in 1996.

So did Derek Wanless, NatWest chief executive, and Lord Alexander of Weedon, NatWest chairman, lose patience with Mr Owen? Or does yesterday's departure signal the end of NatWest's ambitions to build a genuinely global investment bank to rival top players such as Merrill Lynch, which encompasses the old Smith New Court, and Dresdner Kleinwort Benson, SBC Warburg, UBS and Deutsche Morgan Grenfell? Certain of these firms have had their own well-publicised problems.

Even closer to home, BZW, the

investment banking arm of Barclays, saw profits plunge last year by £55 million to £204 million. This fall was almost entirely due to the recruitment of expensive senior staff, including that of Bill Harrison, BZW's chief executive from Robert Fleming, and the inevitable redundancies that followed. The similarity between BZW and NatWest Markets is that both have only in recent years emerged in their current shapes and that both have failed to give shareholders a reasonable return on capital injected into them by their parent banks. The difference is that Martin Taylor, chief executive of Barclays Bank, has already acted to turn BZW into a genuinely global investment bank. It is a high-risk strategy and one that is not guaranteed to succeed. However, Mr Taylor has at least now established a clear vision of where he would like BZW to be. NatWest has

yet to reach this clarity in corporate thinking.

The Owen resignation at NatWest, already embarrassed at having to announce the £90 million black hole only days after unveiling annual profits of £1.1 billion, had been under discussion for some time. Initially, Mr Owen enjoyed strong backing from Mr Wanless. It appeared that NatWest Markets had been the victim of poor management and risk supervision in the interest-rate options division, a relatively small part of the business. As a clear sign that he was prepared to accept responsibility, in that he headed the firm, Mr Owen agreed to hand back £200,000 of a £500,000 annual bonus. This gesture, however, was criticised by many, and some not far from the Bank of England, as being too little too late.

Results of the NatWest Markets inquiry into the derivatives losses will

be published in part by the end of this month, and will be passed in their entirety to the Bank of England and the Securities and Futures Authority. As the inquiry continued, it became clear that a lack of risk controls and proper management was not limited to derivatives activities. As a result, a review of the whole of NatWest Markets was launched. This is expected to discard certain geographical parts of the investment banking empire, and business with low profit margins, such as "big-ticket lending" to corporations, and to introduce far tighter risk and credit controls.

NatWest has taken private soundings around the City as to how NatWest Markets was viewed. The answer appears to have been that the first step to restore credibility was that Mr Owen had to go. His personal integrity has never been in doubt, but, in the all-important terms

of market and business perception, his position had become untenable.

The next step, and this is likely to emerge from the business strategy review, is to define more clearly the roles of the very diverse businesses acquired by NatWest Markets. These include Gleacher, the US mergers and acquisitions firm, bought in October 1995 for \$135 million, Greenwich Capital, another US company, bought last year for \$590 million, and JO Hambro Magan, the UK corporate finance specialist. The latter acquisition may eventually cost up to £150 million after 120 staff of the newly merged entity were locked in with reported £1 million "golden handcuffs". NatWest also acquired Cartmore, the highly rated fund manager, last year for £472 million.

Mr Wanless last night insisted that NatWest is as committed to its investment banking arm as it ever was. He has assumed control for now, a move that will give some comfort to the market and shareholders. Nevertheless, this is truly the last chance for NatWest Markets and the global ambitions of its parent.

Windfalls drive billion-pound demand for package holidays

Tour operators benefit as 'feel-good' factor grows, Marianne Curphey says

Tour operators are preparing for their busiest summer for five years. Britons are expected to spend between £1 billion and £3 billion of the free shares windfalls from building society conversions on package holidays.

Demand for holidays has been fuelled by increasing consumer confidence, better employment figures, a strong economy, and the windfall bonuses. Not only are tour operators selling more holidays, they are achieving sales closer to brochure prices, which means that margins have improved.

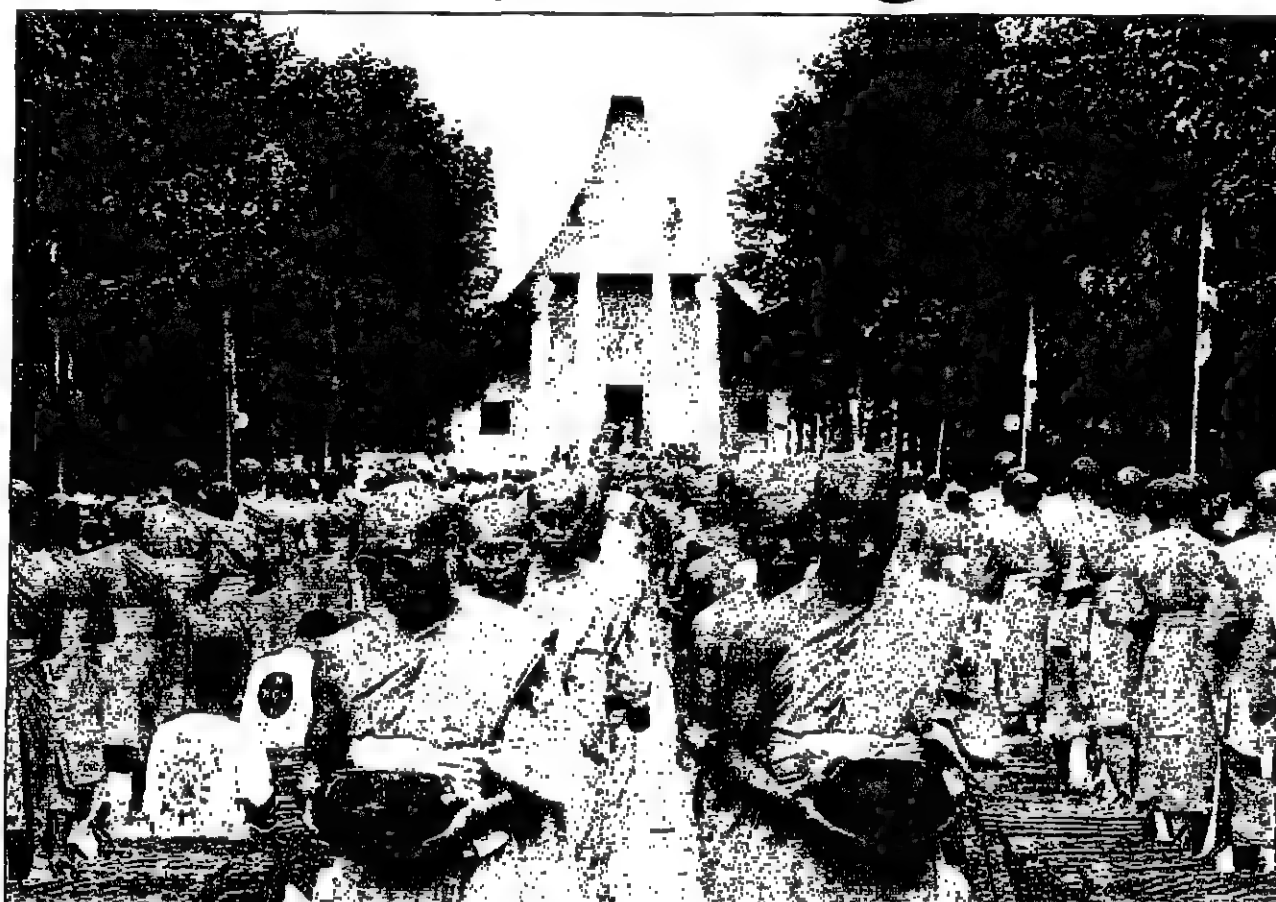
Thomson Holidays, the market leader, says that bookings are up 4 per cent on last year and are expected to rise a further 10 per cent next year as the conversions of Woolwich and Northern Rock are completed this summer.

Russell Amerasekera, communications director of Thomson, said: "We are expecting a total of 8.8 million people to take a holiday this year, with many of them upgrading from the usual two weeks in Spain to a trip of a lifetime for the family in Florida. We are seeing couples splashing out on Caribbean cruises and trips to the Far East."

Research by independent analysts has suggested that 1.5 million people will be spending at least £1,000 of their windfall on a foreign holiday. Many of these will be paying the full price to secure the resort and hotel of their choice, rather than waiting for end-of-season discounts.

Tour operators are also selling more packages to exotic destinations and all-inclusive hotels — a sector usually reserved for customers buying the top range of breaks.

Among those fuelling the



Buddhist monks taking part in an alms ceremony in Thailand, a popular holiday destination for windfall-spenders

boom are customers who are up to £10,000 richer following the flotation of the Halifax and Alliance & Leicester building societies. Tours to Malaysia, Thailand and Singapore are among the most popular destinations.

The implications of the "feel-good" factor driving consumer spending and, incidentally, the property market, has not been lost on the City. Shares in Airtours, one of the biggest players in the industry, have risen more than £2 in a month and closed just below their 12-month high of £11.80 yesterday.

First Choice, the third-largest operator, has seen its shares double in 12 months, rising from a low of 51p last July to close at 104p yesterday.

Airtours' rise has been extraordinary. It has been one of the strongest shares in the FTSE 100 index. It is 29 per cent owned by Carnival Corporation, the biggest cruise operator in the world. Carnival bought 20 million shares

in Airtours at 450p, and 20 million at 500p last summer, and is expected to make a full bid for the UK operator in a few years. In the interim, Airtours' success in the domestic and Scandinavian markets has made it a darling of the Square Mile.

David Crossland, chairman of Airtours, was bullish last month when he presented the company's interim. The City is waiting for confirmation of the good news when First Choice Holidays, under Peter Long, its new chief executive, reports its six-month figures on Thursday of next week.

BZW has upgraded its full-year pre-tax profit estimate for Airtours from £105 million to £115 million and from £120 million to £130 million for the full year in 1998.

Merrill Lynch has also upgraded its full-year estimate for Airtours from £110 million to £120 million this year, and from £122 million to £148 million next year. This compares with the 12-month result

for Airtours in 1996 of £86.6 million.

For First Choice's interim next week, Merrill Lynch has pencilled in a £23.5 million loss, broadly comparable with the same period last year. Holiday companies traditionally make a loss or a very small profit in the first six months of the year since 70 per cent of their profit is made in the peak months of July and August. Both Airtours and First Choice have been trying to balance this by building up their winter and overseas programmes.

For the full year, Merrill Lynch is estimating a £23.5 million profit for First Choice compared with a £9.3 million profit last year, and £30 million in 1998.

In order to get the maximum benefit from the optimism that is currently in the market, the holiday companies launched their brochures for next summer three

months earlier than usual. Mr Amerasekera said: "Our booking patterns have shown that there are large numbers of people willing to commit themselves to next year's holiday before they have taken this year's. Our bookings for this summer are 12 per cent up and for summer 1998 the booking levels are healthy."

Wayne Sanderson, leisure analyst with Merrill Lynch, believes that despite "patchy" sales for June, bookings for July and August are likely to be strong. He also predicts that the current strength of sterling will give the holiday companies an extra boost next year. "At present the pound is strong and that is good for consumers who feel happier about going abroad, but it is of no benefit for the tour operators who negotiated hotel bed rates way back last June when sterling was weaker," Mr Sanderson said.

This year, though, the pound has risen 19 per cent against the Spanish peseta,

which means that when the companies are organising beds for summer 1998 they can do so very cheaply. Although brochure prices for 1998 have gone down, the margins that tour operators expect to achieve are sharply up.

Mr Amerasekera said: "Normally in an election year we would expect some consumer uncertainty. This has not been the case so far. There is a lot of consumer confidence out there and the tour operating industry is one of the beneficiaries."

The worry for investors when sales are going so well is that holiday companies will be tempted to lay on extra capacity. If they overestimate the demand they find themselves having to discount deeply late in the season.

However, Mr Amerasekera believes that the travel companies should be able to restrain themselves from piling on capacity because they have become accustomed to enjoying healthy margins from peak-season sales.

The buoyancy of holiday stocks has also led some analysts to look again at Thomson, the UK market leader. Thomson Corporation, the UK company's parent, has made clear that it intends to have off the holiday division in the future, but has given no indication of the timescale.

Based on last year's pre-tax profits of £81 million, and expected profits this year of £100 million, analysts put the prospective sale price of Thomson Holidays at between £800 million to £1 billion.

In the company's favour is its strong position as market leader in the UK, and its cash-generative business with higher margins than some of its rivals.

One analyst said: "The holiday industry is so cyclical that although times are good now for tour operators, there will be price wars and poor margins in the future. For this reason, Thomson Corporation will have two or three opportunities to float its holiday business in the next decade. Now seems a good time, with the UK market buoyant and holiday company profits expected to rise. If a float was announced tomorrow, I would not be at all surprised."

Let mutuality be the power behind the tap and the Tube

Sometimes relief comes from an unexpected source. Most people think government borrowing is too high, but the PSBR could be cut — by mutuality.

It seems paradoxical. Mutuality is losing ground in the financial sector. Remaining building societies can legitimately claim to offer finer terms without shareholders to worry about, but that will not help them if members can cash in reserves built by present and past members.

There is, however, another sector of the economy waiting to be opened up to mutuality — to the benefit of consumers and the public purse. Indeed, there is a potential bonanza for the Treasury nearly as good in its way, as privatisation was.

The idea is to mutualise monopoly public services that carry a lot of debt. The obvious place to start is the Scottish water companies.

These remain in public ownership, and Labour's manifesto promise to keep them under "democratic control" rules out privatisation. Meanwhile, the companies, hamstrung by public borrowing restrictions, are desperately short of capital for infrastructure. They also fear political interference with pricing. The only solution on offer is the dread PFI or private finance initiative.

They have to contract out parts of the business to attract private capital. Unfortunately, it makes engineering and commercial sense to keep a water operation vertically integrated. No English water company, so far as I know, has contracted out big chunks of the business, though they would presumably have done so if it made sense. Piecemeal, unregulated privatisation, based on expensive capital, is what PFI offers.

There is a better way. Anyone receiving a water bill becomes a member, with a vote for the board. The board can appoint management and incentivise it to hit consumer-oriented targets. They could even franchise management to another water company if that gave customers the best deal. In other words, make the companies mutuals. That solves all problems. Everyone uses water, so the companies remain subject to democratic control; they are outside the PSBR and can borrow what they need to invest. If it makes sense to contract out operations, they can still do

it, but they are not forced to do so by capital constraints. And the Treasury? The Scottish companies have debts of more than £1 billion on the State's books. Those are given away with the assets. That would not leave the companies overlevered. They would refinance the debt and repay the Treasury. On the conventions governing British public finance, that would work like a privatisation — cash coming in is treated as revenue. Hey presto, £1 billion off the PSBR.

Where else would this work? What about London Underground? When you buy a ticket, pay a pound extra to be a member. Then you get a vote. The elected board appoints management to run the company in the customers' interest. At last we may get enough investment. Again, the Treasury sheds some debt.

The quest for profit makes companies efficient and is best for customers too — if there is competition. If not, that quest can be at customers' expense. In spite of a regulator. If the product market is a monopoly but the capital market is competitive, the customer can be exploited, but the investor cannot be diddled — or not more than once — because all companies must pay market rates on their capital. Those market structures mean you should vest control with the customer, not the investor. Mutualisation is then fairer and more efficient. It is also likely to be better than state control, which too often leads to political games played even with private regulated industries.

Will customers keep an eye on the company, or be apathetic, letting it become inefficient? There are always risks of sleepiness in a monopoly, however governed, but the difference from a building society is clear. If you don't like one society, you don't complain at the AGM, you just move society. The fact that Scots water users are stuck with the company will make the vote valuable. In particular, other firms with commercial exposure to the water company can ensure their views are taken into account. In the US, electricity mutuals exist — and are as efficient as PLCs.

GERALD HOLTHAM
Director, Institute for Public Policy Research

WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "SORRY"?

plaintiff n. 1 common domestic argument (it's your turn to wash up; what time do you call this?) 2 a person who brings a case against another in court.

fort n. 1 an upmarket pastry case containing lemon, jam etc. (attrib) BBC English 2 a civil wrong other than under contract or equity.

sue n. & v. 1 that Lawley presenter on television 2 term for legal proceedings against a person (usu. foll. by *parties* off).

dispute v. 1 a matter for litigation 2 no it's not 3 oh yes it is 4 I'll see you in court.

lawsuit n. 1 usu. of pinstripe variety 2 corporate nightmare which requires the best possible defence.

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New Balls

DOGGING Gordon Brown's footsteps, as ever, in Amsterdam yesterday at the EU summit was his economic special adviser at the Treasury, Ed Balls, the single most important influence on the Chancellor. But there are more Balls yet to be served. He was an economics leader-writer on the *Financial Times* before heading off into the real world and helping to run the country. Now his younger brother, Andrew, is heading down the same route. FT insiders claim the parallels are



There's no such thing as building society

spooky. Both Oxford and Harvard-educated, both with good connections with the new economics establishment. And not only is Andrew doing the same job as Ed was, he is even sitting at his brother's old desk.

Andrew's posting is temporary, while Ed's successor at the FT, Stephanie Flanders, works for the Clinton Administration. But the FT is looking for a full-timer to replace her — and they might not look much further than one A. Balls. So once Ed goes off to pick up a parliamentary seat, as is widely expected, before an eventual Cabinet seat, brother Andrew can slip effortlessly over to the Treasury. And no one can ever accuse New Labour of lacking Balls.

● **OVERHEARD** at Nobu, the achingly fashionable nouvelle Japanese restaurant attached to the Metropolitan Hotel on Park Lane. Lady diner: "Could I have a spoon for my soup, please?" Goatee-bearded, Armani-clad waiter: "If you're lucky."

Joli good

EASY come, easy go. NatWest Group is selling two pictures at Sotheby's next month that should just about cover Martin Owen's compensation cheque. Hitherto hidden away in the bank's executive dining room, they



are some spectacular views of the River Thames by the 18th century Italian artist Antonio Joli — no, I hadn't heard of him either. And they are worth, between them, about £1.5 million. The money will actually go to create a capital fund to pay for the purchase of more modern works for NatWest's Louthbury Gallery in the City, a former local branch that the other day won this year's City Heritage Award. The pictures, described as "probably Joli's most ambitious", are one of the bank's more successful investments — in 1967 they cost about £20,000 between them.

Master class

THOSE of us who suspect that it was actually a pair of management con-

subtants who kitted out the emperor with his new wardrobe should get hold of a copy of the brochure for the Ashridge Masters Degree course in Organization (sic) Consulting. £15,000 a time, plus VAT, two years part-time. During which students will attend workshops to review their current consulting practice in order to "clarify the underlying metaphors, values and epistemology of their work and to share this with other participants". They also get to "practise various inquiry methodologies, examine the congruency of their espoused and enacted values and beliefs, and enhance" — oh, I can't bear any more, but I suppose they edit the course with the ability to spout such corporate gibberish to unsuspecting clients. And earn a hundred times the salary of the average nurse.

Sound move

THE rumour so often denied by Sir Tim Bell is that Chime Communications, his public relations company, is eager to buy M&C Saatchi, controlled by his old friend Maurice Saatchi, now Lord Saatchi, and brother Charles. This is news to Lord Saatchi too. Yesterday the boot was on the other foot. Megalmedia, the special effects company that duplicated Eddie Murphy in six different guises in *The Nutty Professor*. Sir Tim just happened to be one of Computer Film's main investors. Can Chime be next on the list?

Needle point

TO THE Embroiders Guild exhibition at the Barbican, *The Art of the Stitch*, sponsored, appropriately enough, by Coats Viyella. Not exactly what you might expect — "quite avant-garde stuff," muses one *aficionado*. But who was the special guest invited last night? Can it really be Norman Willis, former general secretary at the TUC, trade union bruiser, amateur poet and, it seems, a mad keen embroiderer in his spare time? Coming next: Mike Tyson takes up origami.

MARTIN WALLER



Norman Willis was invited to attend an embroidery exhibition

Equities lose ground

TRADING PERIOD: Settlement takes place five business days after the day of trade. Companies are listed on the London Stock Exchange. For adjustments, see page 35. A stock is at a dividend if it is marked with a 'D'.

1997	1996	1995	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989	1988	1987	1986	1985	1984	1983	1982	1981	1980	1979	1978	1977	1976	1975	1974	1973	1972	1971	1970	1969	1968	1967	1966	1965	1964	1963	1962	1961	1960	1959	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949	1948	1947	1946	1945	1944	1943	1942	1941	1940	1939	1938	1937	1936	1935	1934	1933	1932	1931	1930	1929	1928	1927	1926	1925	1924	1923	1922	1921	1920	1919	1918	1917	1916	1915	1914	1913	1912	1911	1910	1909	1908	1907	1906	1905	1904	1903	1902	1901	1900	1899	1898	1897	1896	1895	1894	1893	1892	1891	1890	1889	1888	1887	1886	1885	1884	1883	1882	1881	1880	1879	1878	1877	1876	1875	1874	1873	1872	1871	1870	1869	1868	1867	1866	1865	1864	1863	1862	1861	1860	1859	1858	1857	1856	1855	1854	1853	1852	1851	1850	1849	1848	1847	1846	1845	1844	1843	1842	1841	1840	1839	1838	1837	1836	1835	1834	1833	1832	1831	1830	1829	1828	1827	1826	1825	1824	1823	1822	1821	1820	1819	1818	1817	1816	1815	1814	1813	1812	1811	1810	1809	1808	1807	1806	1805	1804	1803	1802	1801	1800	1799	1798	1797	1796	1795	1794	1793	1792	1791	1790	1789	1788	1787	1786	1785	1784	1783	1782	1781	1780	1779	1778	1777	1776	1775	1774	1773	1772	1771	1770	1769	1768	1767	1766	1765	1764	1763	1762	1761	1760	1759	1758	1757	1756	1755	1754	1753	1752	1751	1750	1749	1748	1747	1746	1745	1744	1743	1742	1741	1740	1739	1738	1737	1736	1735	1734	1733	1732	1731	1730	1729	1728	1727	1726	1725	1724	1723	1722	1721	1720	1719	1718	1717	1716	1715	1714	1713	1712	1711	1710	1709	1708	1707	1706	1705	1704	1703	1702	1701	1700	1699	1698	1697	1696	1695	1694	1693	1692	1691	1690	1689	1688	1687	1686	1685	1684	1683	1682	1681	1680	1679	1678	1677	1676	1675	1674	1673	1672	1671	1670	1669	1668	1667	1666	1665	1664	1663	1662	1661	1660	1659	1658	1657	1656	1655	1654	1653	1652	1651	1650	1649	1648	1647	1646	1645	1644	1643	1642	1641	1640	1639	1638	1637	1636	1635	1634	1633	1632	1631	1630	1629	1628	1627	1626	1625	1624	1623	1622	1621	1620	1619	1618	1617	1616	1615	1614	1613	1612	1611	1610	1609	1608	1607	1606	1605	1604	1603	1602	1601	1600	1599	1598	1597	1596	1595	1594	1593	1592	1591	1590	1589	1588	1587	1586	1585	1584	1583	1582	1581	1580	1579	1578	1577	1576	1575	1574	1573	1572	1571	1570	1569	1568	1567	1566	1565	1564	1563	1562	1561	1560	1559	1558	1557	1556	1555	1554	1553	1552	1551	1550	1549	1548	1547	1546	1545	1544	1543	1542	1541	1540	1539	1538	1537	1536	1535	1534	1533	1532	1531	1530	1529	1528	1527	1526	1525	1524	1523	1522	1521	1520	1519	1518	1517	1516	1515	1514	1513	1512	1511	1510	1509	1508	1507	1506	1505	1504	1503	1502	1501	1500	1499	1498	1497	1496	1495	1494	1493	1492	1491	1490	1489	1488	1487	1486	1485	1484	1483	1482	1481	1480	1479	1478	1477	1476	1475	1474	1473	1472	1471	1470	1469	1468	1467	1466	1465	1464	1463	1462	1461	1460	1459	1458	1457	1456	1455	1454	1453	1452	1451	1450	1449	1448	1447	1446	1445	1444	1443	1442	1441	1440	1439	1438	1437	1436	1435	1434	1433	1432	1431	1430	1429	1428	1427	1426	1425	1424	1423	1422	1421	1420	1419	1418	1417	1416	1415	1414	1413	1412	1411	1410	1409	1408	1407	1406	1405	1404	1403	1402	1401	1400	1399	1398	1397	1396	1395	1394	1393	1392	1391	1390	1389	1388	1387	1386	1385	1384	1383	1382	1381	1380	1379	1378	1377	1376	1375	1374	1373	1372	1371	1370	1369	1368	1367	1366	1365	1364	1363	1362	1361	1360	1359	1358	1357	1356	1355	1354	1353	1352	1351	1350	1349	1348	1347	1346	1345	1344	1343	1342	1341	1340	1339	1338	1337	1336	1335	1334	1333	1332	1331	1330	1329	1328	1327	1326	1325	1324	1323	1322	1321	1320	1319	1318	1317	1316	1315	1314	1313	1312	1311	1310	1309	1308	1307	1306	1305	1304	1303	1302	1301	1300	1299	1298	1297	1296	1295	1294	1293	1292	1291	1290	1289	1288	1287	1286	1285	1284	1283	1282	1281	1280	1279	1278	1277	1276	1275	1274	1273	1272	1271	1270	1269	1268	1267	1266	1265	1264	1263	1262	1261	1260	1259	1258	1257	1256	1255	1254	1253	1252	1251	1250	1249	1248	1247	1246	1245	1244	1243	1242	1241	1240	1239	1238	1237	1236	1235	1234	1233	1232	1231	1230	1229	1228	1227	1226	1225	1224	1223	1222	1221	1220	1219	1218	1217	1216	1215	1214	1213	1212	1211	1210	1209	1208	1207	1206	1205	1204	1203	1202	1201	1200	1199	1198	1197	1196	1195	1194	1193	1192	1191	1190	1189	1188	1187	1186	1185	1184	1183	1182	1181	1180	1179	1178	1177	1176	1175	1174	1173	1172	1171	1170	1169	1168	1167	1166	1165	1164	1163	1162	1161	1160	1159	1158	1157	1156	1155	1154	1153	1152	1151	1150	1149	1148	1147	1146	1145	1144	1143	1142	1141	1140	1139	1138	1137	1136	1135	1134	1133	1132	1131	1130	1129	1128	1127	1126	1125	1124	1123	1122	1121	1120	1119	1118	1117	1116	1115	1114	1113	1112	1111	1110	1109	1108	1107	1106	1105	1104	1103	1102	1101	1100	1099	1098	1097	1096	1095	1094	1093	1092	1091	1090	1089	1088	1087	1086	1085	1084	1083	1082	1081	1080	1079	1078	1077	1076	1075	1074	1073	1072	1071	1070	1069	1068	1067	1066	1065	1064	1063	1062	1061	1060	1059	1058	1057	1056	1055	1054	1053	1052	1051	1050	1049	1048	1047	1046	1045	1044	1043	1042	1041	1040	1039	1038	1037	1036	1035	1034	1033	1032	1031	1030	1029	1028	1027	1026	1025	1024	1023	1022	1021	1020	1019	1018	1017	1016	1015	1014	1013	1012	1011	1010	1009	1008	1007	1006	1005	1004	1003	1002	1001	1000	999	998	99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UNIT TRUST PRICES 35

7 4

UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Sponsored section

Industry aid to stem brain drain

Surrey offers a fast track to academic success, says Chris Partridge

ONE of the major problems most universities face is losing their brightest researchers to industry. They have barely got their hands round their PhD scrolls and they are off to highly paid posts in commercial research laboratories or, even worse, sales and marketing, where their scientific knowledge and expertise is often wasted.

Now Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Surrey, has devised a plan to lure top post-graduate students back to the university. It is called the Surrey Scholar scheme and is essentially a fast track up the academic ladder, in the same way that large companies have accelerated promotion paths for talented managers.

"These people have difficulty getting into university at the post-doctoral stage, so we lose a lot to industry," says Professor Dowling.

"The concept is simple — to give industry the opportunity to invest in post-doctoral students."

An impressive roll of blue-chip companies has been encouraged to sponsor students. The British Gas Surrey Scholar will look at reclaiming contaminated land, a big problem in preparing former gasworks for other uses. The British Steel Surrey Sch-



Vice-Chancellor Patrick Dowling

dent will look at the energy efficiency of steel as a construction material. Other sponsors include Philips Electronics, Fina and Petrofina, and Unilever. And Guildford Borough Council has donated money for research into sustainable waste-management initiatives. Sponsors benefit from the expertise of a top young scientist, plus the cachet of getting the company logo associated with a prestigious academic post.

One advantage for the scholar is a considerably higher salary than they might earn elsewhere as a junior researcher. They also avoid most of the routine work regarded by research scientists as too distracting.

"Surrey Scholars get released from teaching and administration so they can develop an innovative research programme over three years," says Professor Dowling.

The benefit for the university is partly in prestige, of course, and this has already begun to pay dividends. "For the first Unilever Scholar, we had applications from the premier research institutes in Switzerland, France and Germany, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and Cambridge," says Professor Dowling.



Surrey graduates celebrate the end of their courses and, right, a model of the new European Institute of Health and Medical Sciences building



Dedicated to diversity

Surrey's entrepreneurial spirit and desire to be part of the community has turned it into a key player in the local economy, says Chris Partridge

EVEN after three decades of academic revolution, it is rare to come across a university with such lofty ideals and financial nous as Surrey University.

Many institutions seem to have either retreated into scholarship and the arts to escape the need to cope with the modern world, while others give the impression that they are totally devoted to making huge amounts of money on the science park or out of fat European research contracts.

But when Professor Patrick Dowling, Surrey's Vice-Chancellor, speaks of his vision for the future, he uses a strange mixture of academic and commercial language.

"Our core business is in teaching and research of a world-class standard," he says. "Our objective is to achieve academic excellence with economic strength. Academic strength is useless if you are about to go broke."

This independent attitude dates from 1981, when Surrey was hard hit by cuts in higher education. Since then, a major aim of the university has been to seek greater independence from government grants. To-

day, only 40 per cent of the university's income is in the form of UK government hand-outs, says Professor Dowling.

Surrey University now has an entrepreneurial attitude that is held up as a model worldwide.

A major money-earner has been the Surrey Research Park, which was formed on land close to the campus 12 years ago.

"A substantial amount of money comes from our research park, which is one of the best in northern Europe," says Professor Dowling.

They genuinely do research at Surrey — they are not allowed to do anything else. It is not an industrial estate masquerading as a research park," he says.

He also points out that the university does not just consume — it puts much back into the community. "We are a major player in the Surrey economy, with a contribution of £450 million a year," he adds. The emphasis on eco-

nomics performance spills over into the academic programme. This is not a place where people learn interesting but useless skills, says Professor

"Our objective is to achieve academic excellence with economic strength"

Dowling. "Our mission is training people to create jobs, not just to get jobs. We produce entrepreneurs."

Even the more altruistic areas of the university's work have a practical aim. Professor Dowling is keen to help two groups with particular difficulties when it comes to finding jobs, especially refugees.

"One special thing we do is help refugees. Some are quite educated but do not know how to get into the system," he says. "We use an old mechanics' institute in Guildford as a centre for advising them on how to get into worthwhile employment."

Professor Dowling is also keen to help those who grow up in deprived circumstances, and those who have fallen by the wayside.

"I am particularly concerned about underprivileged youngsters. People who grow up in middle-class homes have a 71 per cent chance of going to university — those from a working-class background have a 17 per cent chance," he says.

"There was quite a shake-out in the City in the recession, so it was a shock to find, in leafy Surrey, a lot of professional people taking 'early retirement' and not having anything to do. We are now offering life-long learning courses very successfully."

Now that the recession is

over, the university is embarking on a major building programme, with some £40 million worth of building work under way. Developments include the Austin Pearce building, a 24-hour language laboratory, which is to open soon, and the European Institute of Health and Medical Sciences, which is due to open early in 1999. It was designed by Nicholas Grimshaw, architect of the Eurostar station at Waterloo.

Professor Dowling's most ambitious plan is to make Surrey University a centre of higher education for the whole region. Already the university has outposts in south London at Wimbledon and Roehampton, which reflect its origins as Battersea Polytechnic. But Professor Dowling has a much wider view.

"The Labour Government is putting a lot of emphasis on regionalisation, and we have the makings of a regional network of further education in Surrey, outer London, Sussex and even into Kent," he says. "This area is relatively underprovided with universities, and we could provide the hub for the region."

Forum to help boost economy

Rodney Hobson on a new business initiative

Strong links between the University of Surrey and local business are being further boosted this year.

The university's Vice-Chancellor, Professor Patrick Dowling, will launch Surrey Innovation Forum this month at the university's research park. The forum is part of a £450,000 programme co-ordinated by Business Link Surrey to boost the local economy through better application of technology.

Professor Dowling will draw parallels between opportunities in Surrey and the way leading universities in America create major economic growth.

Surrey University was one of the founding members of Surrey Business Link, which is intended to operate as a one-stop shop dispensing advice and practical help to small and medium businesses.

The forum will improve communications between the university, companies and research organisations and ensure that the real needs of growing companies are properly understood.

Peter Cousins, deputy chief executive of Business Link Surrey, says: "Fast-growing smaller firms are an important source of employment in Surrey and this project will accelerate their growth."

Surrey County Council is also encouraging innovation through the Animate project, which has European Union backing. The aim is to persuade local companies to sell in Europe.

Earlier this year the EU awarded grants for two other research projects at the university. One will look for ways to place graduates in small and medium businesses, and the second will consider how universities can improve links with the business world.

THE UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

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David Varney Chief Executive

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"British Steel has previously enjoyed a fruitful relationship with the Vice Chancellor of the University of Surrey, Professor Patrick Dowling, in the field of constructional steelwork, and hopes to build on that success through the Surrey Scholars Scheme. I look forward to the British Steel Surrey Scholar's help in employing steel's excellent environmental credentials to develop future steel intensive systems for a variety of applications."

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Peter Saraga Managing Director

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François Cornells
Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director

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"Guildford Borough Council's participation in the imaginative Surrey Scholars Scheme will not only enhance the already close relationship between the University and its 'home borough' but will enable the commitment of both organisations to Agenda 21 and environmental issues generally to be advanced at a very high level."

David Watts Chief Executive

Unilever

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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

A breeding ground for wealth creators

Rodney Hobson reports on a high-technology park that has attracted huge international interest

They searched high and low but according to the Koreans no one has a research park to compare with Surrey. Dr Malcolm Parry, general manager of the park, returned this week from Korea, where he was asked to chair an international committee to develop the idea of a world technology organisation, a grouping of large centres where wealth is created through technology. Other founder members include Calgary, in Canada, and Phoenix, Arizona.

"This will promote Surrey University as an example of a park that has done very well," says Dr Parry. "The Koreans looked all over the world and decided that our park was the most successful in northern Europe."

The business park also won praise in a year-long evaluation financed by a £50,000

grant from the European Union's Strategic Programme for Innovation and Technology Transfer (Sprint).

The Sprint research found that the park had fulfilled its primary aim of providing a substantial return on investment, with contributions of £7.5 million to the university up to February last year.

The survey confirmed that the park had achieved a high profile in the marketplace and had attracted high-profile international companies.

About 600,000 sq ft has been developed and is occupied by 83 companies. They employ 2,100 people and have created 900 jobs, with 500 recruits coming from the immediate area. The average turnover per employee is £71,000 — almost 60 per cent of which goes in exports.

Over the years 150 companies have taken up residence at some stage or

another, but such is the park's success rate that many have moved to larger premises.

Dr Parry says: "A proportion of businesses that have moved out have stayed locally. We form a significant part of the economic development in the locality, not only producing wealth and an income stream for the area, but also in creating new economic activity as businesses grow."

A crucial part of the process has been the provision of an incubator centre, where very small companies can take leases as short as one month. "The university is effectively subsidising economic development," says Dr Parry. "No other landlord would do it."

The Research Park, owned and developed by the university, covers 70 acres. Accommodation for high technology, research and development oc-



Dr Parry and Dr Stephen Baker, the park's development director

cupies ranges from 600 sq ft to 100,000 sq ft. Tenants include BOC, Borax, Canon, Matsushita and Mitsubishi. The 83 companies in the park include 19 foreign ones — four from Japan and the remainder American.

"We now have a waiting list of American companies wanting to get on to the park," says Dr Parry. "It is quite embarrassing."

Dr Parry believes the success of the park reflects the quality of the low-rise, low-

Engineers get the green light

Industry benefits from a degree of co-operation, says

Amanda Loose

A NEW breed of environmentally friendly engineers will graduate from Surrey University's Environmental Technology Doctor of Engineering (EngD) programme this autumn.

They are schooled in disciplines from the social and environmental sciences, law, management skills to media relations, and are trained to understand the wider implications of the industry.

About 15 students have enrolled each year, 30-40 per cent of whom are women. "Students are determined to make a difference," says Professor Roland Clift of Surrey's Centre for Environmental Strategy, where the course is partly based.

"We set up the course after observing that environmental problems tend to rise through lack of communication rather than limitations in technology. The senior manager of

the future is going to be a different kind of individual, one who understands social processes as well as technology; sees the whole story and can communicate with others."

The course, run jointly with Brunel University, Middlesex, was started four years ago. Students spend 75 per cent of their time working with a sponsoring company, where they complete their individual projects.

Every six weeks, students come together for taught modules, involving course work, which is also assessed. The course even includes instruc-

tion on how to handle the media. Students work with one company over the four years. These range from small operations to multinationals, and include some overseas firms. Dr Kate Burningham teaches some social science modules, including understanding environmentalism, which aims to throw light on green politics.

"Traditionally, engineering students come out of EngDs with specialised knowledge, but no overview of issues such as the environment, which is not especially useful to industry," she says.

"Industry is increasingly concerned about its environmental record and image and will inevitably need people who are well informed, not just about physical and chemical impacts on the environment, but about the whole process in its political and social context."

surrey's focus on the future



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Satellites go into orbit economy class

Chris Partridge reports from the smallest and cheapest space mission control in the world

SURREY University's plan for the Millennium will have Britain's schoolchildren looking to the stars — by launching a satellite.

The satellite would orbit the Earth loaded with cameras and communications equipment. Schools would be able to communicate with it using simple and economical radio equipment to exchange messages worldwide.

"It is a project to inspire schoolchildren and motivate them to come into science," says Professor Patrick Dowling, Vice-Chancellor of Surrey University.

A previous satellite project run with a local school pushed entry to the science

stream up by a factor of several hundred per cent, Professor Dowling says. A national scheme could save science in schools, he believes. All Britain's schools could be involved, and it would cost only £11 million.

The Millennium satellite would be built on campus at Surrey University, one of the few academic institutions with a fully functional space centre. The control room at Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) may not be as fancy as Mission Control, Houston, but it can do almost as much. It is the smallest and cheapest satellite control station in the world.

Surrey has pioneered the



Work in progress on a satellite at SSTL

concept of ultra-low cost satellites for communications, science and educational use. When Professor Martin Sweeting first proposed the

idea, it was a revelation to an industry which built satellites to rigorous reliability standards, regardless of cost.

Professor Sweeting pointed out that satellites made from commercial components rather than military specification parts would be a fraction of the cost, but almost as reliable.

Ed Milton, a Surrey graduate and now general manager of SSTL, describes the contrast between the approaches: "The industry was built around big, high-cost satellites with high reliability and taking from two to five years to design and make. Ours cost £1 million upwards, and take less than a year to make."

The tiny satellites, about the size of a waste-paper bin, as opposed to the elephant-sized satellites made by the big defence corporations, also save money on the ground. They are capable of operating on their own when out of sight of the Earth station, fine adjustments to their orbit being made only as they pass over Guildford.

Despite the commercial success of the operation, Mr Milton stresses that they have not lost touch with the main objective, to transfer the technology to emerging nations which need cheap communications.

SSTL can be found on <http://www.ee.surrey.ac.uk>

Established in 1983, The Surrey Research Park is a campus development which houses over 83 companies including: BOC (UK), Borax Consolidated, Canon Research Centre Europe, Hyder Group and Mitsubishi Electric, all of which are engaged in leading edge science and technology.

The Surrey Technology Centre sited on the Park, is owned and managed by the University of Surrey, offers fitted suites from 250 ft² (23.25 m²) on a monthly licence. It provides meeting rooms and a central reception area as well as a restaurant, bar and conference facilities for use by all occupiers on the Park.

Multi-occupancy buildings provide suites from 1,200 to 6,000 ft² (111.75 to 557.55 m²) on flexible leases. The University of Surrey manages and maintains the buildings, car parks, landscaping and roads, allowing companies to concentrate on their business activities.

Due to be finished in July 1997, the latest phase of development will provide 7,000 to 21,000 ft² (650.3 to 1951 m²). With 22 acres (9 ha) of the 70-acre (29 ha) site still to be developed, the University of Surrey's Design and Build Programme can provide completed buildings tailored to companies' precise requirements at a realistic cost and within an agreed timescale.

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http://www.surrey.ac.uk/research_park.html

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UNIVERSITY OF SURREY

Sponsored section

From infertility to dancing on the Net

Amanda Loose examines some of the wide range of research projects undertaken by the university

Research projects at the University of Surrey cover many disciplines and could benefit industry, the environment, medicine and health — even those who suffer jetlag.

Serious concerns are being tackled by the university's applied and social sciences departments. Professor Jon Groeger is studying road rage, and the psychology of driver behaviour, while Professor Ian Kitchen is looking at how morphine works in the brain, in collaboration with seven other European research centres. He hopes to discover what is responsible for its pain suppressing effects, and which genes are responsible for the addictive process.

Professor Josephine Arendt is looking at how melatonin

can help the blind to regulate their body clocks, and also provide the natural answer to jetlag. Low levels of selenium, a trace mineral found in bread, cereals, fish, poultry and meat, could be contributing to cancers, cardiovascular disease and fertility problems, says research fellow Margaret Rayman.

She says: "Selenium is part of the enzyme which helps to remove damaged molecules that over time could cause harm, such as damage to DNA which could cause mutations, or the laying down of matter in the arteries. Selenium is also needed in the tail of male sperm to enable it to

swim effectively. A random study of 1,312 elderly American patients showed a 50 per cent lower cancer mortality in those receiving selenium.

"Our daily intake of selenium has fallen by 26 micrograms since 1974, when we joined the EU, as imports of North American flour, which is rich in selenium, have been substantially reduced. But it has been added to fertiliser in Finland, since 1984, and is added to salt in China. Animals have been given supplements since 1978 as selenium deficiency can cause white muscle disease, so why not give it to humans?"

Over in the Department of Physics, Dr Peter McDonald heads up Surrey's magnetic resonance imaging group, which is looking at the effectiveness of the various coatings used to protect buildings and structures from water and weather damage.

Dr McDonald says: "More money is spent in the West on

the repair and replacement of existing structures — such as houses, roads and bridges — than on new projects. Some coatings are very expensive, and no one is certain how effective they are, or when is the best time to apply them.

'Animals are given extra selenium, so why not humans?'

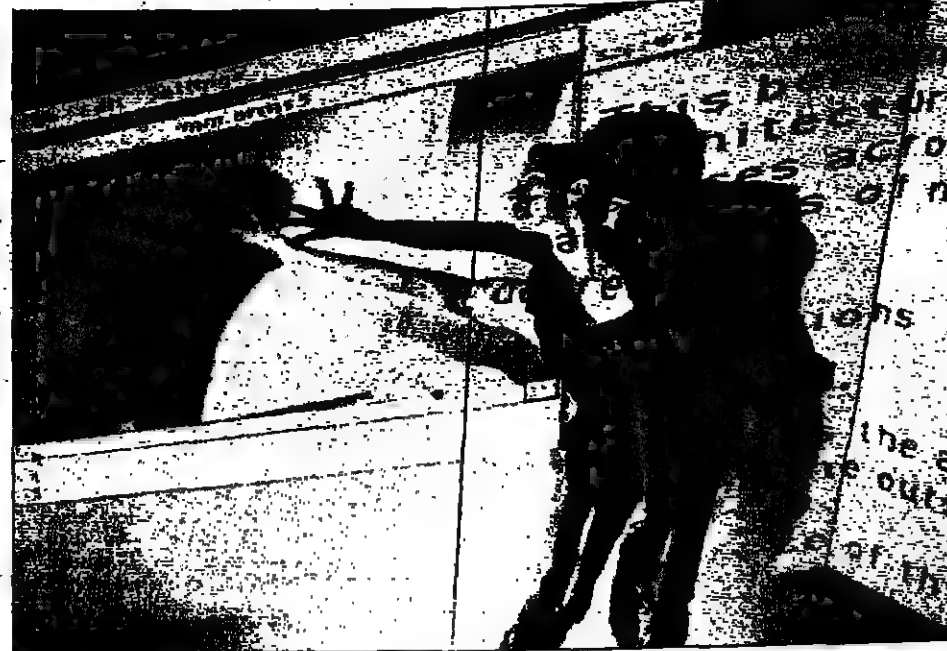
"Most damage is linked to water transportation, such as freeze-thaw. By using stray field magnetic resonance (Straff), a form of magnetic resonance imaging, we are able to follow water or other fluids and solids into and out of a material, and look at how

far they go into a structure. We put a short pulse of radio waves into a sample of, for example, concrete, for a few millionths of a second, which excites the protons and causes them to resonate, and we computerise their response."

Surrey operates the only full-time Straff machine in the country, and is also looking at how dental resins are affected by constant exposure to bodily fluids, how paint dries and how petroleum products affect the durability of the plastic containers in which they are held.

Dr Susan Kozell runs the University's dance and culture course, a modular BA programme running since 1981 with around 30 students each year. It encompasses the culture, philosophy and anthropological theories of dance and the traditional history and repertoire of dance.

Apart from lessons in ballet and contemporary dance, students also learn African dance, and an Indian dance known as Kathak. Dr Kozell says: "We want to produce a thinking dancer, with a thorough background. My own research area is dancing and new



Susan Kozell, who specialises in dance, has performed with a colleague via the Internet

technology, including dance on the Internet."

Last month Dr Kozell and a colleague danced together in cyberspace. Dr Kozell was at the Electronic Art Festival in Vancouver, Canada, while her

colleague was in London. Using a small camera, linked to a computer, their images were simultaneously projected onto a screen in Vancouver.

Dr Kozell says: "It changes your rhythms and move-

ments, and extends your performance space. Austin University in Texas wants us to participate in their lectures via the Internet. Students could link up for discussion and dance afterwards."

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- Establishing contacts with local and international schools
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- Close contacts with local business links such as Training & Enterprise Council, Education Business Partnership and Government Office of South East, offering possibilities for organisations exchanges with overseas partners in business and education.

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Accelerating to the millennium

Silicon chips from Surrey will be vital to a national research programme

THE transistors that cover the surface of a silicon chip are now only a few thousands of a millimetre across. They are so small that making them involves firing obscure elements into the silicon almost atom by atom. It is high technology at its highest, and Surrey University is at the cutting edge. Chris Partridge writes.

One of the critical processes used in building up the delicate structures of a silicon chip is ion implantation. Charged atoms of the required element (arsenic is a common one) are accelerated by powerful magnets to exactly the right speed and directed on to the right point on the chip, to form the combination of positively and negatively charged areas that a transistor requires.

This operation is precise beyond comprehension, so it

is performed, the laws of physics being what they are, by a machine the size of a small house and costing more than £1 million. It is an ion beam accelerator and Surrey University has just acquired a new one.

"The particles have to be accelerated to very precise speeds to place them at very shallow levels in the chip," explains Professor Brian Sealy, head of the Ion Beam Centre. "The new machine is the only one in a UK research establishment capable of doing this to the accuracy required by future generations of chips."

The new machine places Surrey University at the heart of a network of research

establishments in Britain which are joining their various capabilities to form a "virtual factory" for production of semiconductor devices for research.

The virtual factory will be located all over Britain, from Edinburgh to Southampton, at research establishments with the various specialist plant required. The parts will be shuttled from place to place for processing under computer control. A commercial water fabrication facility has all these machines under one roof, but these are designed to produce huge numbers of identical chips. The research community needs only small numbers of any particular chip, and the ma-

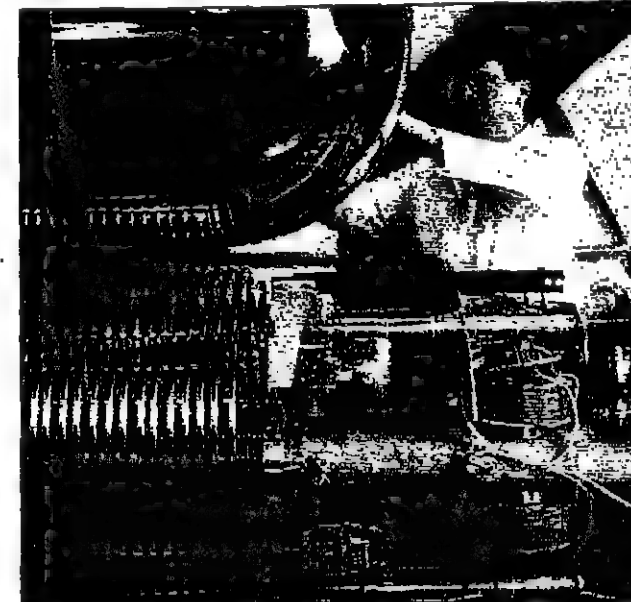
A 'virtual factory' is almost upon us

chines must be flexible enough to perform other experiments, Professor Sealy says.

So Surrey's ion beam implanter will not only make chips, but will take Surrey to the forefront of British research into another crucial area of tomorrow's technology — displays for computers and television sets.

Researchers worldwide are trying to find ways of creating displays as thin as pictures on the wall, but to do this requires the ability to cover the surface with millions of light-emitting devices such as transistors.

The ion beam implanter is specially adapted to do just this, and a Phillips Surrey Scholar has been appointed to specialise in the research. Phillips has a particular interest in active matrix displays



The new ion beam accelerator cost more than £1 million

for laptop computers and personal videos, which are currently the most expensive component of such devices.

Professor Sealy also expects to use the machine to create devices in gallium arsenide, a

material like silicon only potentially many times faster. The machine could even be used to implant ions into crude mechanical parts to create ball bearings with super hard surfaces.

Sky High at Surrey

Groundbreaking research in the field of satellite engineering and communications has won the University of Surrey a Queen's Anniversary Prize for Higher and Further Education. In another boost for the University's Department of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, it achieved the top 5* ranking in the latest Research Assessment Exercise.

In our research we aim high — we pioneered affordable access to space with smaller, faster, cheaper satellites. But we don't have our heads in the clouds and we don't stop at producing first class research — we apply it. Our satellite engineering and communications expertise is employed in our own company Surrey Satellite Technology Ltd (SSTL) and in the work of our Centre for Satellite Engineering Research (CSER) and Centre for Communication Systems Research (CCSR).

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- demonstrating real-life applications of microsatellites to Earth observation, communications, science & defence.
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CCSR is a core member of two UK Virtual Centres of Excellence in Research into Mobile and Personal Communications and Multimedia Broadcasting. It also:

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LAW

● 40 YEARS OF JUSTICE 41
● ITALIAN EXPORTS 41



Dax O'Callaghan as a key witness in the "murder" case, with the real-life Judge Butler in the background

Inside the jury at last

Frances Gibb reports on a television series that has found a way of looking closely at how juries operate

Light is shed for the first time this week on the biggest secret of the criminal justice system — what goes on in the jury room. A drama-documentary that began last night breaks new ground in the genre of courtroom television.

For the first time, a "real" trial is created, using a judge, QCs, expert witnesses, court staff, and a jury of non-actors retreating to consider its verdict. But unlike a real trial, where cameras are still banned, the cameras for *Trial By Jury* follow the jurors' deliberations. The outcome is a compelling insight into how they reach their verdict.

The three-part series has been produced by Nick Catliff, who in 1994 made broadcast history with his TV series *The Trial*, which took cameras inside Scottish courts (not covered by the same law as in England and Wales). "This time," he says, "the aim is to show how a murder trial actually works — to feel the cloth, what it is really like."

His experience with *The Trial* convinced him that ordinary trials — as opposed to the sensational O.J. Simpson type — made good viewing. He adds: "This is a typical trial, resulting from an incident of the kind people might see, so

that viewers can relate to it." A fictional murder was created. Simon Chapman, a stockbroker travelling home to Richmond in southwest London from a business dinner, was stabbed to death on a late-night train. Fifteen-year-old Duncan More has been charged with the murder. But his lawyers argue that Duncan's friend, 13-year-old David Parker, was actually the killer. Only the boys and the witnesses were played by actors. The murder was acted out on the train, so witnesses had real memories on which to draw. A "corpse" was created, lawyers instructed, briefs drawn up and case conferences held (with Mark Ashford, a solicitor).

The witnesses were given statements, but there were no scripts. The action in court, as with a real trial, was spontaneous and unpredictable.

For the viewer, the trial is the closest thing yet televised to being in court, greatly helped by the participation of two top criminal silks, Ronald Thwaites, QC, and Joanna Greenberg, QC, with forensic experts such as Professor Bernard Knight and the judge, the

retired Gerald Butler, QC. "I soon began to feel that I was in a real case," he says. "These counsel and experts had appeared before me... and the witnesses and the boys were excellent."

The trial was filmed over five days at the old Oxford Crown Court. The judge said he quickly forgot about the presence of the cameras. "I don't think," he says, "that I behaved any differently from start to finish than I would have in a real trial."

The programme's chief interest lies in the jury-room discussion leading to the verdict. The result, Judge Butler believes, is a vindication of the jury. Four verdicts were possible: guilty of murder, guilty of manslaughter, guilty of manslaughter by reason of provocation, not guilty. Normally, he would have issued jurors with a written summing-up on the law, but he wanted to see how they coped without. He says: "I was impressed with the way they approached the factual issues." They had seemed read-

able to put to one side the trivial. But they did, he felt, at times get muddled over legal distinctions during the one and a half days of deliberation. "As the hours went by," he says, "they seemed to lose the thread of the law and merge the concepts into one another."

There was also a glimpse into what Mr Catliff calls the "dynamics" of the jury room: how (without revealing the result) they persuaded one of their number to change her mind, so as to come to the requisite majority of 10-2, having been faced with a real risk of being "hung".

In the end, aided by a particularly articulate forewoman, the six men and women (chosen from scores who applied to an advertisement to give a cross-section) did get the "right" result, the one the programme-makers say reflects what happened.

So what does it all show? Mr Catliff's view is that: "You can see the problems with trying to lay the rigorous template of the law on top of an emotional event. The jurors thought the lawyers were good at their jobs, but the jurors clearly

discounted what they thought was said just to back their case. Nor did they think the system was designed to show what really happened."

"In the end, they got it right — people of mixed backgrounds, drawing on their own experience of life as much as on legal argument."

Judge Butler comments: "We delude ourselves if we believe juries follow complex legal instructions. I do not criticise them. But it seems there is great merit in perhaps a judge retiring with a jury to deal with points of law."

Otherwise, he thinks that the whole concept should be reconsidered. "But," he adds, "I accept that the system has flaws, but I know of no better."

● Trial By Jury (BBC2, continuing tonight and tomorrow at 11.15).

Evidence to defend OJ's prosecutor

The rejection of your submissions is always a disagreeable experience for an advocate, to be discussed only with close friends and loved ones, and then to be forgotten as soon as possible. The remarkable autobiography of Marcia Clark, lead prosecution counsel in the O.J. Simpson trial in Los Angeles, is unusual and compelling as a study of the bitter experience of defeat.

Without a Doubt (written with Teresa Carpenter, and published by Viking, \$25.95) is not about losing a normal case. It concerns a legal disaster of epic proportions. The proceedings had a nightmare quality, involving several months of pressure combating ruthless opponents, before a grossly incompetent judge, seeking to persuade an exceptionally hostile jury, in front of a worldwide television audience of hundreds of millions of people critical of Ms Clark's cross-examination technique, her strategy, her hairstyle, and her child-care arrangements.

Life at the Bar brings many unusual experiences, but appearing in court on the day when a tabloid magazine has published topless photographs sold to it by one's mother-in-law has happened to very few of us. All advocates have their difficult cases, but not many can claim that a "Holocaust survivor sent me a book on coping". What touched Ms Clark most, she confides, "was a letter sent by a convent of Dominican nuns" urging "courage and fortitude". She taped it to the wall next to her desk "and turned to it several times a day for comfort".

Now Ms Clark finds some solace, and entertains her readers, by taking what revenge she can for the humiliation she experienced. She does not have feelings of animosity for her learned friends on the defence team. Mr Johnnie Cochran is, she asserts, "a two-faced hypocritical bastard" and Mr Robert Shapiro a "patronising asshole". The other defence lawyers are fortunate to escape as "a set of incomparably grandiose egos".

Ms Clark finds Judge Ito guilty on a number of serious charges. He allowed himself to be "pushed around by the defence", and was "too sensitive to his own press notices". She has "never seen a man with so little spine". In his court, the bench "always looked empty. Even when Lance was sitting on it". Ms Clark concludes that you cannot "expect a clown to stop a circus".

Marcia Clark is entitled to feel bitter. Like so many lawyers, she was addicted to trial work. For her, "a new case is like a secret lover. You think about it. Plan for it." But the trial of O.J. Simpson turned into a "weird and seedy game show" with her "a featured

player in a freak show". As she observes, the potent cocktail of race and celebrity, stirred by sharp defence lawyers and a weak judge, produced a travesty of justice. She knew, long before the verdict, that she was not persuading the jury, even wearing her "believe me suit".

But what Ms Clark is unable or unwilling to acknowledge is the substantial responsibility which the prosecution must bear for the failure to convict O.J. Simpson. Television cameras may have contributed to the farce, but they certainly demonstrated the incompetence of those presenting the case for the People of California. A powerful case was lost in a mass of irrelevant witnesses, over-complex presentations, and unfocused cross-examination.

An important part of the problem during the trial was that Ms Clark lacked any sense of objectivity. Describing one of her earlier cases, she tells us that she wrote to the victim's mother that she hoped to

secure the conviction of "the miserable slimy piece of cow dung" facing trial for murder. During O.J. Simpson's arraignment, Ms Clark was not concentrating on the California penal code. She records: "You asshole," I thought. "You unregenerate, scum-sucking creep!"

Ms Clark seems unable to understand that so emotional an involvement may make it more difficult for a prosecutor to perform her task of explanation and persuasion. When lawyers win cases, they expect praise for their powerful advocacy. When they lose, it is the fault of an unsatisfactory witness, a foolish judge, or a slippery opponent.

Despite its self-pity and special pleading, *Without a Doubt* (currently third in *The New York Times* list of best-selling non-fiction books) should be read by all lawyers as a compelling account of advocacy on the edge.

No doubt this morning in the robing rooms of courts across the country advocates are, like Ms Clark, complaining that "the stress is getting to me. Most of the time I feel ill", and suffering from "bouts of bone-crushing fatigue". But, echoing the heroic Ms Clark, those lawyers will be expressing the determination that although they might lose "when the bell rings at the end of 15 rounds", they still "want to be standing. Bloody, staggering, puking, maybe. But still standing".

The trial of Ms Clark is an inspiration to us all. However unsympathetically our own submissions may be received, it could all be so much worse. And we can all hope for a \$4.2 million book deal.

● The author is a practising barrister and a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford.



"Rivals": Ronald Thwaites, QC and Joanna Greenberg, QC



COUNSEL
DAVID
PANICK QC

Inns fail to agree on equality

THE BAR and the four Inns of Court are at loggerheads again over the Inns' failure to implement a joint equality code four years after a draft was drawn up. A motion before the Bar again on Saturday by Lincoln Crawford and Laura Cox, QC (chairs of the race relations and sex discrimination committees), condemning the Inns for the delay was overwhelmingly carried.

The issue last blew up in 1993 when the Inns failed to adopt a joint anti-discrimination code, a stance attacked by Mr Justice Sedley, the High Court judge, as exposing the profession to "public criticism".

The Inns have since agreed a broad equality policy but are still working on a detailed code. The Bar launched its own comprehensive equality code last year, the most extensive adopted by a profession. The Bar Council approved it three years earlier.

Martin Bowley, QC, and bench of Inner Temple, accuses the Inns of "dragging their collective feet for more than four years". He adds:

INNS AND OUTS

"The issue shows not merely a lack of... commitment to equal opportunities by the Inns but more, their refusal to drag themselves into the 20th century, let alone the 21st."

Lord Justice Saville, who is chairing the Inns' working party, rejects the notion that the Inns are going slow on equality. Details had been hard to agree, partly because of the Inns' differing governing bodies, because of the range of people affected by the code and because of how to

enforce it. "We take the view," he says, "that there is no point having a code without sanctions — and it is not easy working out a common disciplinary procedure."

CPS changes

SIR Iain Giddens, the retired Court of Appeal judge, is to carry out the review of the Crown Prosecution Service, assisted by Sir Geoffrey Dear, who has just retired as HM Inspector of Constabulary. It

looks like being a no-holds barred review, covering both internal structures and policies and procedures, as well as how the CPS informs victims of crime about prosecution decisions.

Meanwhile, lawyers in private practice will after all, be able to apply for the new Chief Crown Prosecution (CCP) posts being created in the reorganisation in which the 13 areas are to be replaced by 42, each headed by a chief crown prosecutor.

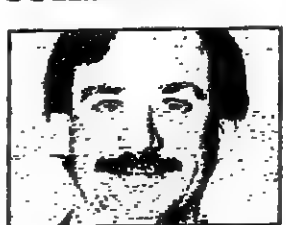
Battle hots up
NOW THAT the novelty has worn off, it is unclear how the solicitors' profession will react to a third set of elections for the Law Society presidency in a row. Philip Sycamore's camp fears that his adversary, the former President Martin Mears, has a real chance of winning on the coattails of a protest vote, if the turnout is low. In anticipation of a fierce battle, the *Law Society Gazette* has written to candidates laying down strict terms of engagement for the election coverage in the magazine. They include the stipulation that all advertisements and articles submitted by the candidates be scrutinised by the *Gazette's* libel reader.

SCRIVENOR

'We want a committee'

GEOFFREY HOON, the new junior minister at the Lord Chancellor's Department, is already making his mark. Determined to see more scrutiny by the Commons of his department and its work, he wants a Commons select committee broadly covering legal affairs to sit alongside the home affairs committee.

Five years ago, the Lord Chancellor had never given



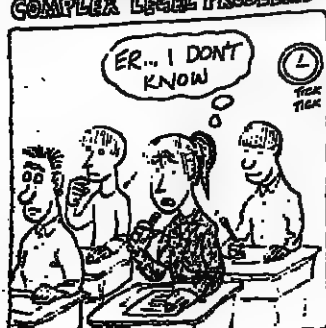
Hoon: seeks more scrutiny

in evidence before a select committee at all — far less with a committee covering the department.

STUART & FRANCIS

QUEEN'S COUNSEL

HOW LAWYERS ANSWER COMPLEX LEGAL PROBLEMS



ER... IT DEPENDS... I SUGGEST WE GO TO COUNSEL ON THIS ONE.



PRIMA FACIE, LEGES POSTERIORES PRIORES CONTRARIAS ABROGANT.



LOOK THIS UP FOR ME, WOULD YOU RACHEL? I DON'T NEED TO SEE THE ANSWER BEFORE MONDAY MORNING.



CHAMBERS

BANKING & FINANCE

23 LONG LANE LONDON EC1A 9HL TEL: 0171-606 8844 (FAX: 0171-600 1793)

BANKING & FINANCE

US Investment Bank: City

Our client is the London based subsidiary of a leading US investment house, a pre-eminent force in global equity and debt issuance in both public and private markets. A recognised innovator in the derivatives sector, it is responsible for a comprehensive range of products across interest rate, currency, equity and commodity markets world-wide.

The cross-product transaction management group is seeking junior lawyers or documentation specialists to join this highly professional team. The role will encompass the negotiation of master agreements (and related credit support arrangements), addressing issues such as capacity and enforceability of close-out netting in different jurisdictions, as well as risk management generally. Working in conjunction with the traders, successful candidates will research the feasibility of proposed transactions, local methods of taking security, efficiency of underlying assets and will undertake all transaction management responsibilities. Opportunities for professional development and excellent remuneration can certainly be expected.

Chambers Banking & Finance recruit lawyers into banks and other financial institutions. For further information or for career advice, please ring Deborah Kirkman or Stuart Morton on 0171 606 8844. Confidentiality is assured.

Global Securities Structured Finance: City

The Structured Finance department of this well known investment house seeks a lawyer to be based on the trading floor at its European Headquarters in London.

The ideal candidate will have 2-4 years' experience of either securities or derivatives gained within private practice or in-house. This hybrid/commercial role encompasses working closely with the trading and structuring desks for emerging markets, structured credit and tax driven products. Responsibilities involve reviewing term sheets offered by the bank including structured notes, asset backed transactions and default swaps. Naturally the ability to integrate in a trading floor environment, which at times means operating in high pressure situations, is a prerequisite. Consequently strong interpersonal and numeracy skills are essential. This is a first class opportunity to work in the front office of a successful and burgeoning global financial institution where the financial and professional rewards are amongst the best.

COMMERCIAL PROPERTY

This highly successful City firm has a young, dynamic culture and is in the top band in the commercial property field. It seeks a lawyer to join its property department of 50 lawyers to do varied and interesting work including investment, development, management and leases for an impressive client list. High rewards are on offer. Ref: 4002. Contact: Pandora Close.

PENSIONS

Leading, medium sized player in City corporate work, well known for its expertise in employee benefits has an opening for a lawyer to handle pensions work and either some employment work or other employee benefits. You will join a team of four lawyers and initial training will be on hand before you enjoy a high degree of responsibility, working on your own initiative. Ref: 1119. Contact: Pandora Close.

COMPUTER COMPANIES

Several companies within the computer and computer services industry are seeking to hire lawyers with proven IT contracts experience. Attractive candidates will have top class drafting and negotiation skills coupled with commercial nous and should relish the prospect of seeing matters through from start to finish. Locations throughout London and the Northern and Western Home Counties. Contact: Paul Ramsdale.

ASSISTANT COMPANY SECRETARY

A household name company seeks a lawyer for a role which involves providing support to management on a wide range of legal issues, dealing with some company secretarial matters, data protection, consumer credit, UK and EU legislation. You will also get involved in Intellectual Property particularly with regard to the company's highly valuable trade marks. Home Counties. Ref: 4180. Contact: Paul Ramsdale.

2-4 YEARS' PQE

This highly successful City firm has a young, dynamic culture and is in the top band in the commercial property field. It seeks a lawyer to join its property department of 50 lawyers to do varied and interesting work including investment, development, management and leases for an impressive client list. High rewards are on offer. Ref: 4002. Contact: Pandora Close.

NO

Leading, medium sized player in City corporate work, well known for its expertise in employee benefits has an opening for a lawyer to handle pensions work and either some employment work or other employee benefits. You will join a team of four lawyers and initial training will be on hand before you enjoy a high degree of responsibility, working on your own initiative. Ref: 1119. Contact: Pandora Close.

1-5 YEARS' PQE

Several companies within the computer and computer services industry are seeking to hire lawyers with proven IT contracts experience. Attractive candidates will have top class drafting and negotiation skills coupled with commercial nous and should relish the prospect of seeing matters through from start to finish. Locations throughout London and the Northern and Western Home Counties. Contact: Paul Ramsdale.

3-8 YEARS' PQE

A household name company seeks a lawyer for a role which involves providing support to management on a wide range of legal issues, dealing with some company secretarial matters, data protection, consumer credit, UK and EU legislation. You will also get involved in Intellectual Property particularly with regard to the company's highly valuable trade marks. Home Counties. Ref: 4180. Contact: Paul Ramsdale.

BROADCASTING - IN-HOUSE

Major Broadcaster has a need for a Lawyer to provide a comprehensive legal and business affairs service both internally and externally. The position will include negotiation, drafting and overseeing agreements at every stage. This exciting role will require developing good working relationships at every level of the organisation's management. Previous broadcasting experience an advantage. Ref: 3738. Contact: Richard Gawn.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Small but prospering team at respected medium-sized practice seeks a non-consultancy specialist to play a key role in a team which is seeking to develop rapidly. The work covered by the group spans the full range of trademark, copyright and patent issues as well as IT and Media work. This firm has proved excellent at integrating solicitors from larger City law firms and can offer a "fast track" route to partnership. Ref: 4207. Contact: Cleo Binn.

BANKING LITIGATION

Superb and substantial banking litigation department of circa 70 partner practice is looking for an assistant with ideally 3 years' PQE. The firm acts for a number of the Country's leading banks and can offer a combined package of first-rate work, a top City salary, an outstanding working environment and excellent prospects. The ideal applicant is confident and friendly with a strong academic background. Ref: 4206. Contact: Jane Glassberg.

COMMERCIAL LITIGATION

This niche practice group within one of the renowned litigation firms in the City, acts on instructions from German clients. You will be mentored by the leading lawyers in this field, be able to put your language skills to use on a day to day basis and avoid over-specialisation at this early stage of your career due to the broad spectrum of work. Top City salary and regular travel. Ref: 4201. Contact: Peter Godwin.



Hughes-Castell International Legal Recruitment Consultants

London Office: 87 Chancery Lane, London WC2A 1RD. Tel: 0171 242 0303 Fax: 0171 242 7111
Hong Kong Office: 602 East Ewin Building, 41 Lockhart Road, Hong Kong. Tel: 2520 1168 Fax: 2865 0925



CHIEF COUNSEL AND LEGAL DIRECTOR

To £150,000 package

Thanks to its clear vision, substantial resources and strong leadership, AT&T Capital is one of the leading global providers of financing programmes for equipment manufacturers and vendors. 1996 has been yet another year of outstanding financial performance with record revenues totalling \$2 billion, up almost 24% on 1995.

AT&T Capital Europe has operations throughout Europe and is a key business unit of AT&T Capital, known for consistently breaking new ground with its innovative and imaginative initiatives.

Our client seeks a senior lawyer to be a key strategic member within its European operations (based at its headquarters in Central London) and to lead its existing team of European lawyers.

With between 10 and 15 years' ppe in a major European jurisdiction, you will have a broad ranging corporate/commercial or finance law background gained in either an organisation of similar standing or private practice. A knowledge of leasing, equipment finance and secured finance, ideally in a multidisciplinary context, would certainly be helpful but not essential. Languages, in addition to English, would also be useful. Crucial, however, is a strong minded business awareness, effective communication and implementation skills and the ability to establish credibility quickly at all levels both inside and outside the company. You will be challenged by the prospect of making a creative and proactive legal and business contribution in a demanding and varied marketplace.

This is an exceptional opportunity to be part of AT&T Capital's core business strategy, a company which is recognised by its customers as an outstanding provider of high quality financial services, by its owners as an outstanding investment and by its members as an outstanding place to work.



For further information in complete confidence, please contact June Mead or Michelle McGregor on 0171-485 6862 during office hours or 0171-792 0475 at evenings or weekends, or write to them at Quarry Dargill In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London, WC1R 4EJ. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394. QD In-House Legal are handling the assignment on an exclusive basis and all direct and third party applications will be forwarded to them.

CHAMBERS

PROFESSIONAL RELOCATION

What do you say when your prospective employer asks you why you want to relocate? Being interviewed in the staff's office of the leading law firm in Cleethorpe, do you admit that the real reason for your move is your girlfriend's appointment at the local Cleethorpe hospital? Probably not. There are better reasons which inspire greater confidence. Not that many employers are prudent any longer about candidates living with their partners unmarried. They simply want to hear reasons which reveal both actions and attitudes.

The staff partner has visions of your girlfriend meeting a handsome young doctor. And if this should happen, he asks himself, is there any guarantee that you won't decide to leave Cleethorpe and return home?

One of our candidates from a large City firm found a job with a firm in Cleethorpe precisely for this reason - to join his girlfriend. He didn't give this as his reason, or he wouldn't have got the job. But the very weakness was the key to start, his girlfriend left him and he decided to remain in London.

Candidates may wish to avoid mentioning girlfriends or boyfriends, even as an afterthought. Any astute interviewer will realise at once that the afterthought is more significant than all the other reasons put together.

Michael Chambers

CHAMBERS' DIRECTORY

Our legal directory is available from Blake, (01408-710 977)

INDUSTRY Sonya Rayner, Fiona Boxall, Morwenna Lewis, Aileen Shepherd

Project Finance: N Home Counties International on seeks solicitor min 5 yrs' ppe to handle JV's, loan documentation and project finance issues related to the group's worldwide development portfolio.

Contentious Employment: London Household name needs solicitor 1-3 yrs' ppe with proven advocacy skills to handle employment claims and represent the company at industrial tribunals.

Professional Negligence: Berkshire 2 year qualified defendant professional negligence solicitor required for financial services company. Role also includes general legal services advice on contracts and some project work. Excellent communication skills and ability to work on own initiative are vital.

PRIVATE PRACTICE LONDON: David Woolston, Simon Anderson

SOUTH: Helen Mills, Noel Murray **NORTH:** Sukh Bhatia, Paul Thomas

Partnership Positions

We have been seeking partners seeking a career move for over 20 years now and are regularly placing several partners each month.

Employment: EC4

1996 qualified with around a year's employment experience sought by small, friendly team in 50 partner City firm to handle contentious/non contentious suits.

Private Client: City

Leading practice, well known for acting for substantial art collectors, seeks 6 month-2 year qualified solicitor for full range of private client work.

Construction: Hong Kong

Major City firm with significant Asia Pacific presence seeks a 2-4 year qualified construction litigator to join their Hong Kong office. Generous on-pat package.

Pensions Partner: City

Unique opportunity for senior pensions solicitor to head-up and develop a pensions practice with law firm associated with 'big six' accountants.

IP/Competition: London

Top multi-entrepreneurial organisation requires lawyer 2-5 yrs' ppe to handle performance and mechanical rights issues & deal with EC competition authorities.

Company/Commercial: London

Opportunity for a general commercial solicitor with c. 2-4 years' ppe to enjoy in house life. Experience of JV's, general contracts, Yellow Book and Companies Act work is essential. Involves some travel.

Trusts: Manchester

Well-known company is looking for a solicitor with c. 2-5 years' ppe to work closely with sales team to provide tailor made insurance packages for clients. Experience of tax and trusts for private clients is important.

Banking Litigation: City

Leading City banking firm seeks 2-5 year qualified banking litigation lawyer with strong technical skills & commercial flair. A genuine 'fast track' opportunity.

Corporate/Venture Capital: City

Outstanding career prospects and quality of work offered to 2-5 year qualified solicitor by 'big six' accountants' law firm. 5 day City market rate.

Head of London Office: US Firm

Highly prestigious medium-sized East Coast firm seeks senior corporate solicitor to head City practice. Broad transactional caseload.

Corporate Tax: Leeds

Forward thinking firm has opportunity for a 2-4 year qualified solicitor to handle corporate and employee share schemes. Excellent package offered.

Private Client Partner: London/Kent

Regional heavyweight seeks senior private client specialist to service growing high net worth client base. Definite partnership appointment.

Corporate Tax & Custom Duties

The Tax Department at Lovell White Durrant is experiencing an increasing demand for a high level tax service.

With strength in depth across the range of direct and indirect tax work in areas of planning, structural, advisory and transactional support work, the department services the clients of the firm across the whole spectrum.

Providing advice on UK tax and on multi-national deals with foreign content, the department advises household names, banks, insurance companies and other leading financial institutions as well as UK and international public and private companies.

The department is seeking a number of lawyers in the following areas:-

- Solicitors, barristers or accountants seeking to handle a variety of work within the corporate tax team. You should have a minimum of 12 months' experience and a maximum of 3 years. Full training and support will be given.

- A finance tax specialist is sought at the 3-4 year-qualified level. You will come from another leading City or international firm and have immediately relevant experience. You will become an integral part of this growing tax finance team.

- A Customs Duty specialist with at least 2 years' relevant experience - whether gained at Customs, in a law or accountancy practice, or at the Bar - is needed to help the lead partner develop the practice. You must have the ambition and capability to be a business developer and a good technician.

All of these appointments will command excellent salary and benefits packages and new recruits will enjoy the challenge of joining a busy and profitable department poised for further growth.

For further information on Lovell White Durrant or any of these positions, please contact our retained consultants, Sally Horrox or Yvonne Smyth on 0171 377 0510 (0181 995 3396 evenings/weekends) or write to them at Zarak Macroe Brenner, 37 Sun Street, London EC2M 2PY. Confidential 0171 247 5174. Email sally@zmb.co.uk. Web pages http://www.zmb.co.uk.

LEGAL DIRECTOR AND SECRETARY

Package exceeding £100k

Central London

Our client is a major, high-profile business with a turnover exceeding £1 billion and employing approximately 20,000 staff, with a daily customer base of 6 million. Major capital investment is supporting the expansion of core services. The management challenges are significant in both scale and complexity, and include innovative technology and the need to sustain the highest possible standards of customer service.

The range of legal issues encountered is broad and varied. Key ingredients for future success include:

- major commercial negotiations, franchises and contracts;
- property law;
- employment law and pensions;
- litigation;
- private finance initiative schemes.

The Legal Director and Secretary is responsible for all legal services including a substantial in-house Legal Department and use of external advisors. In addition to giving strategic leadership to the in-house team, the appointee is Secretary to the board and plays a vital role as advisor (not only on legal matters)

to board members and senior management.

The position calls for an outstanding qualified solicitor or barrister with considerable experience advising at senior levels on a broad range of legal and non-legal matters. The ability - and proven track record - to work as a business partner with board members and senior managers, winning their confidence and achieving results, is vital. Broad experience in varied organisations and legal environments (eg experience of both private and public sectors) would be ideal, but exceptional talent and achievement are more important.

Remuneration will be negotiated with the preferred candidate but is likely to comprise a base salary of up to £90,000, a bonus scheme of up to 25% of salary and valuable additional benefits (including pension and car).

Please apply in strict confidence by sending your CV (including details of qualifications, relevant experience, latest remuneration, address and telephone numbers and date of birth) quoting reference DTLD to Douglas Board at Sartori Bampfylde International plc, PO Box 198, Guildford GU1 4FH (fax 01483 30 30 29) arrive not later than Friday 27 June 1997. We will contact you by 19 July.



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LOOK NO FURTHER

PROPERTY

Move out and move in if you are a big city lawyer keen to enjoy the finer things in life. This leading south coast firm can offer you just that, as well as top quality work and very advanced career prospects if you are a commercial property lawyer with 3+ years' ppe from a City or major provincial firm. Ref: T37645

To £Excellent

Move out and move in if you are a big city lawyer keen to enjoy the finer things in life. This leading south coast firm can offer you just that, as well as top quality work and very advanced career prospects if you are a commercial property lawyer with 3+ years' ppe from a City or major provincial firm. Ref: T37645

FINANCIAL SERVICES

There has never been a more exciting time to be a financial services lawyer, and the potential of the opportunity offered by this top 10 City firm reflects it. You will be working for premium financial services clients and can expect a smooth road to partnership if you build on your 0-5 years' ppe. Ref: T17301

To £70,000

There has never been a more exciting time to be a financial services lawyer, and the potential of the opportunity offered by this top 10 City firm reflects it. You will be working for premium financial services clients and can expect a smooth road to partnership if you build on your 0-5 years' ppe. Ref: T17301

SENIOR CORPORATE INSURANCE

This is the chance for a senior corporate insurance lawyer really to hit the big time by joining one of the City's leading insurance practices as second in command. You will have a good understanding of the Lloyd's market and handle clients well, because that is what is expected of a partner here. Ref: T34139

To £150,000

This is the chance for a senior corporate insurance lawyer really to hit the big time by joining one of the City's leading insurance practices as second in command. You will have a good understanding of the Lloyd's market and handle clients well, because that is what is expected of a partner here. Ref: T34139

IN-HOUSE CAPITAL MARKETS

If capital markets work is your thing, and in-house appeals, then this is the perfect move. One of the world's leading investment houses needs a lawyer with 4-7 years' ppe and experience of derivatives, structured products and repackaging to take over those parts of its legal department. Ref: T7159

To £100,000+

If capital markets work is your thing, and in-house appeals, then this is the perfect move. One of the world's leading investment houses needs a lawyer with 4-7 years' ppe and experience of derivatives, structured products and repackaging to take over those parts of its legal department. Ref: T7159

IT LITIGATION

The London office of this major national firm is ideal for the type of IT litigator who wants to join a very active practice at the cutting edge of the field, where the prospects are better than at the large City firms and the environment extremely encouraging. A great move if you have 3-5 years' ppe. Ref: T39486

To £65,000

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IP

You can be sure of working for some of the world's leading companies at this top 10 City firm, and the effect that will have on your career is incalculably good. It is looking to take on a IP lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe, good academics and a risk of contentious and especially non-contentious experience. Ref: T40656

To £70,000

You can be sure of working for some of the world's leading companies at this top 10 City firm, and the effect that will have on your career is incalculably good. It is looking to take on a IP lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe, good academics and a risk of contentious and especially non-contentious experience. Ref: T40656

TELECOMS

This is a very good time to join one of the City's leading high-tech firms, as some of the best telecoms lawyers you can hope to advise on are waiting for you. You will have 2-4 years' ppe in the regulatory side of telecoms from a recognised practice. If you do well, you will be very, very well rewarded. Ref: T10035

To £48,000

This is a very good time to join one of the City's leading high-tech firms, as some of the best telecoms lawyers you can hope to advise on are waiting for you. You will have 2-4 years' ppe in the regulatory side of telecoms from a recognised practice. If you do well, you will be very, very well rewarded. Ref: T10035

CORPORATE/COMMERCIAL

This leading medium-sized City firm is a great place to be a corporate/commercial lawyer. Firstly, you can stay a generalist and enjoy a broad spread of work. Secondly, its corporate department is looking to grow, meaning you will be first in line for promotion. Lawyers with 2-3 and 4+ years' ppe please. Ref: T39772

To £Excellent

This leading medium-sized City firm is a great place to be a corporate/commercial lawyer. Firstly, you can stay a generalist and enjoy a broad spread of work. Secondly, its corporate department is looking to grow, meaning you will be first in line for promotion. Lawyers with 2-3 and 4+ years' ppe please. Ref: T39772

CHARITIES

Charity work begins at this leading City firm, if reputation is anything to go by. A top move for a charities lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe keen to build your own reputation on the back of market-leading charity formation, organisation, administration and tax matters. Very good prospects for the right person. Ref: T13876

To £55,000

Charity work begins at this leading City firm, if reputation is anything to go by. A top move for a charities lawyer with 4-6 years' ppe keen to build your own reputation on the back of market-leading charity formation, organisation, administration and tax matters. Very good prospects for the right person. Ref: T13876

COMPANY/COMMERCIAL

Join the partnership of this highly-rated West End firm and you will find yourself working on some company/commercial transactions that firm much larger would be envious of. A very profitable opportunity for a lawyer with 5-10 years' ppe with a respectable background and some kind of following. Ref: T7204

To £Highly competitive

Join the partnership of this highly-rated West End firm and you will find yourself working on some company/commercial transactions that firm much larger would be envious of. A very profitable opportunity for a lawyer with 5-10 years' ppe with a respectable background and some kind of following. Ref: T7204

The Latest.....17/6/97

MOSCOW COM. PROPERTY

1-5yrs Unique opportunity for UK qualified property lawyer (ideally with training in a major City or provincial firm) to undertake interesting Eastern European property work in Moscow office of Top 10 City firm. No language skills/dual qualification necessary. A superb chance to work in a fascinating environment with top UK package.

CORP. FINANCE/MEDIA

3-6yrs Popular W. End media firm offering a genuinely good quality of life plus a glamorous client base seeks top calibre Corporate Finance lawyer to spearhead this work in their thriving Corporate/Commercial dept. A superb move away from a large City player, offering genuine prospects, strong personal autonomy and an interesting workload.

PRIVATE CLIENT

6mths-3yrs 70 partner City firm with friendly profile offers exciting opportunity for junior Private Client lawyer to handle unusually broad variety of work. Strong academics & City/major provincial exp're desirable.

FAMILY

2-4yrs Popular firm with leading reputation in family law seeks very bright lawyer to join its thriving team. Excellent academics and experience of high net worth cases is vital.

COMMERCIAL/BANKING

4-5yrs Unusual role in highly regarded 15 partner West End firm to undertake a broad workload of banking and commercial work. Genuine prospects and salary to £20K.

COMMERCIAL

NQ Small and friendly City firm requires ambitious and personable junior lawyer. Varied and interesting work with a strong international element is guaranteed. City training desirable.

PROPERTY

NQ-3yrs Highly regarded W. End firm seeks bright lawyer to join busy team. Friendly department with impressive clients & excellent prospects.

CORPORATE TAX

NQ-4yrs Progressive firm offers truly varied workload in an entrepreneurial environment. A real chance to make a mark. Sept NQ's considered.

BANKING

NQ-5yrs City firm offers great opportunity for commercial lawyers to play a part in establishing new Banking team. May suit Aust/NZ sols.

IT/TELECOMS

2-4yrs High profile caseload in Media dept of City firm with a leading reputation in Communications. Good IT/software exp' on essential.

Commerce & Industry

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Forty years of success

Frances Gibb
hails Justice, the group that has broken new ground in fighting legal miscarriages

Robert Weeks spent 15 years in prison. When he was 17, he stole goods worth 35p and threatened a shopkeeper with a starting pistol. He was eventually released on licence, but was then recalled to prison. Both decisions were made in secret by the Parole Board.

Weeks had no legal representation and did not know the reason for his continued detention. Justice, the all-party human rights group, was able to show that his life sentence was unjust and to have it remitted. The group also took the case to Europe, prompting a change in the law, so that decisions about prisoners serving discretionary life sentences are now made in the open, by a tribunal.

In another case, Jacqueline Fletcher, was convicted of murdering her baby son. Her conviction rested heavily on confession evidence obtained without proper safeguards and on misleading scientific evidence. Paul and Wayne Darvell served six years before it was proved that police had altered the two's confession statements and that crucial forensic evidence exonerating them had not been disclosed. With the help of BBC television's pioneering *Rough Justice* programmes, Justice proved the innocence of all three.

In the past decade such cases have been front-page news. But when Justice began its work, 40 years ago this year, miscarriages of justice were not acknowledged. There was a culture of complacency in the legal establishment, which failed to recognise that the police — for the best of motives — could fabricate evidence; that the courts could get it wrong. It was Tom Sargent, the first secretary of Justice, who first took on some of the allegations of wrongful convictions. Anne Owens, director of Justice for the past five years, says: "The council [of Justice] did not think it was our job. But he [Sargent] saw such huge injustices." At that time, she says, doubts were raised time



Jacqueline Fletcher, convicted of murdering her baby, won an appeal with Justice's help, and below, Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, chairman of Justice's council, and Presley Baxendale, QC, council member



and again about cases such as the Luton Post Office murder, but the jury verdict was sacrosanct and it was impossible to have convictions quashed.

This year the first public body charged with investigating miscarriages of justice began its work. The Criminal Cases Review Commission will now take on the hundreds of cases a year in which people claim to have been wrongly convicted or sentenced.

For Justice, the achievement is a

milestone. Lord Alexander of Weedon, QC, chairman of its council, says: "We pressed this for many years, and again before the Royal Commission under Lord Runciman — and, impressed with our arguments, he recommended it and pushed it through. I do not believe that without our input, it would have been achieved."

Justice has come far since it was founded in 1957 as the British section of the International Commission of Jurists. It began with a

watching brief on human rights, when an all-party group of lawyers went to observe the treason trials in South Africa and Hungary. For years, it operated on a shoe string from tiny offices in Chancery Lane. But it has always commanded the backing of leading lawyers in the profession, who have been ready to give their time to its detailed law reform research and reports. They see it as the "conscience of the profession" — a role much needed, according to Tony Holland, its

executive chairman, "since we are becoming a business as opposed to a profession."

Under Lord Alexander — whom colleagues praise as "an inspirational leader" — an appeal was launched and £1.25 million raised to put the group on a firmer footing, with proper administrative back-up and offices. Beyond the professional itself, however, it has a crucial role — and a hard-earned reputation. Presley Baxendale, QC, a council member, says: "Its work is not sufficiently recognised by the general public. But lawyers are only too ready to work for it because it addresses the significant issues and has an effect."

Justice has made its name over miscarriages. But its work and achievements go wider: the ombudsman system, Criminal Injuries Compensation Board, data protection laws, safeguards in the Police Act on bugging provisions; fairness in asylum procedures and concessions in the Crime (Sentencing) Act. It is timely that this year marks a turning point in government policy on incorporating the European Convention on Human Rights and will see proposals for a Judicial Appointments Commission.

Justice is now at a turning point. It will gradually give up its case work on individual miscarriages. But that, Lord Alexander says, will free it to give time to the "immense canvas" of criminal and civil justice work: ensuring that the balance is maintained "between prosecution of crime and protection of civil liberties"; to the changing needs of law reform, its commitment to legal rights and in particular youth justice and European human rights.

Much of this work is where Justice began. Now that work is again increasingly centre-stage. Justice has made a key submission to the Intergovernmental Conference and is taking the lead in Europe over monitoring rights in the European Union.

In this monitoring role — where it has still much to do, in watching the work of the new Criminal Cases Commission and on the wider civil justice front — it is determined to scrutinise new laws and their effects. "Justice," Lord Alexander says, "is as much needed now, with the new issues that arise, pressures to combat crime and the need to protect our civil liberties, with law reform and human rights... as when it was founded."

Leading article, page 23

London exports its legal style

Edward Fennell on how the Italians welcome the Anglo-Saxon approach

For the Italians, it has become a matter of national pride to be among the first countries to be ready for the single currency — an attitude shared by many Italian lawyers. Fabio Brembati of the Rome Office of Baker & McKenzie said last week: "Signor Romano Prodi's Government has made entry to EMU its first priority. It has reiterated this time and time again to justify the measures it has taken to cut the level of national debt."

Italy's endeavours to come into the mainstream of the EU have been reflected in the drive towards privatisation. Slow to get off the ground, they are now gathering momentum. The moves have also been the bait to draw some of the UK's largest law firms to set up in Italy.

Perhaps the most successful of these is Freshfields. Following in the footsteps of Clifford Chance, it has succeeded in winning the work on the three largest privatisations in Italy this year, culminating in being appointed US and international counsel to SBC Warburg on the privatisation of Autostrada (the Government-owned company that operates half the highway system). This represents a coup for its Milan office.

To reflect the escalating scale of its work in Italy's commercial centre, Freshfields moved yesterday into grand new offices in Milan that combine London-style efficiency with Italian grace. Though Italy is regarded as being a difficult market, the speed at which Freshfields has made its mark reflects great changes in the Italian way of doing business. Bright young lawyers realise that the traditional Italian way of lawyering — small firms that constantly fracture — cannot meet the demands of today's large transactions. Freshfields offers Italian, Ameri-

can and UK law experience to reflect the demands of its Italian and its international clients in the banking and corporate fields. Giovanni Lega, a Milan Freshfields partner, explains: "Only to a limited extent are we taking work from local Italian lawyers. We are really here to undertake the new kind of international work that did not exist. And because of the speed of change, it is by no means a saturated market in Milan, as perhaps it is in London."

Fabrizio Arossa, another local partner, points out that the stability of the UK partnership system is an attractive alternative to the interne-

cine war that used to break out in Italian legal practices. Traverso & Associati is an Italian firm with strong links to Rowe & Maw in London. Maurizio Traverso, who runs the firm, is aiming to operate it on Anglo-Saxon lines. With 18 lawyers and predominantly multinational as its clients, the firm has grown rapidly in order to provide the scale and quality of service that clients now need.

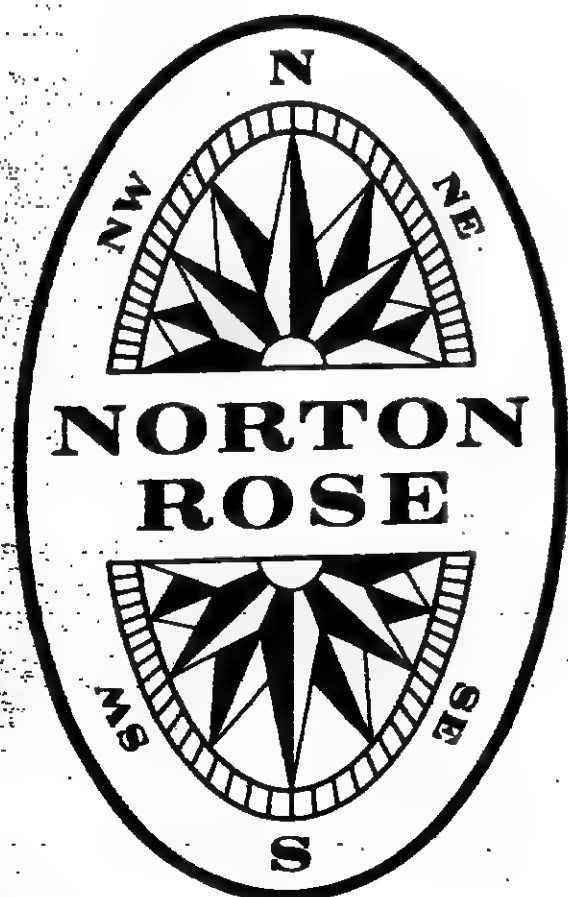
Bruno Giuffrè, a partner, says: "I think we have a genuine partnership here in a way that Anglo-Saxon lawyers would recognise. We emphasise strict control of quality and we are very keen on strengthening our links with selected foreign law firms."

This positive attitude towards London lawyers in particular was borne out by the merger last month of the firm of Grippo e Associati and Simmons & Simmons. Though the two outfits have had a joint venture in Milan and Rome for several years, their merger is of considerable significance. Partners from the Grippo firm have now become partners in Simmons & Simmons, again symbolising the ability of British and Italians to work harmoniously together.



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For more information about the Firm, contact our website: <http://www.cliffordchance.com>

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For further information in complete confidence, please contact Rebecca Errington or Michelle McGregor (both qualified lawyers) on 0171-405 6062 (0171-357 0912 or 0171-792 0475 evenings/weekends) or write to them at QD In-House Legal, 37-41 Bedford Row, London WC1R 4JH. Confidential fax: 0171-831 6394.

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Reading this, you will probably know who we are! If you are interested, we would like you to contact our retained consultants who have worked with our practice closely over the last few years. There will also be an opportunity to meet some of our junior lawyers on an informal basis.

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COMPANY/COMMERCIAL - June 1
Fully qualified to 2 yrs PQE in London law firm. The successful candidate will be responsible for all aspects of the firm's legal work, including contract drafting, negotiation and completion. The candidate should have a minimum of 5 years' experience in a similar role and be able to demonstrate a strong understanding of the legal and commercial aspects of the firm's business. (Ref: 0252)

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RACING: LODER-TRAINED COLT CAN FEND OFF INTERNATIONAL CHALLENGE

Starborough to shine bright

By RICHARD EVANS
RACING CORRESPONDENT

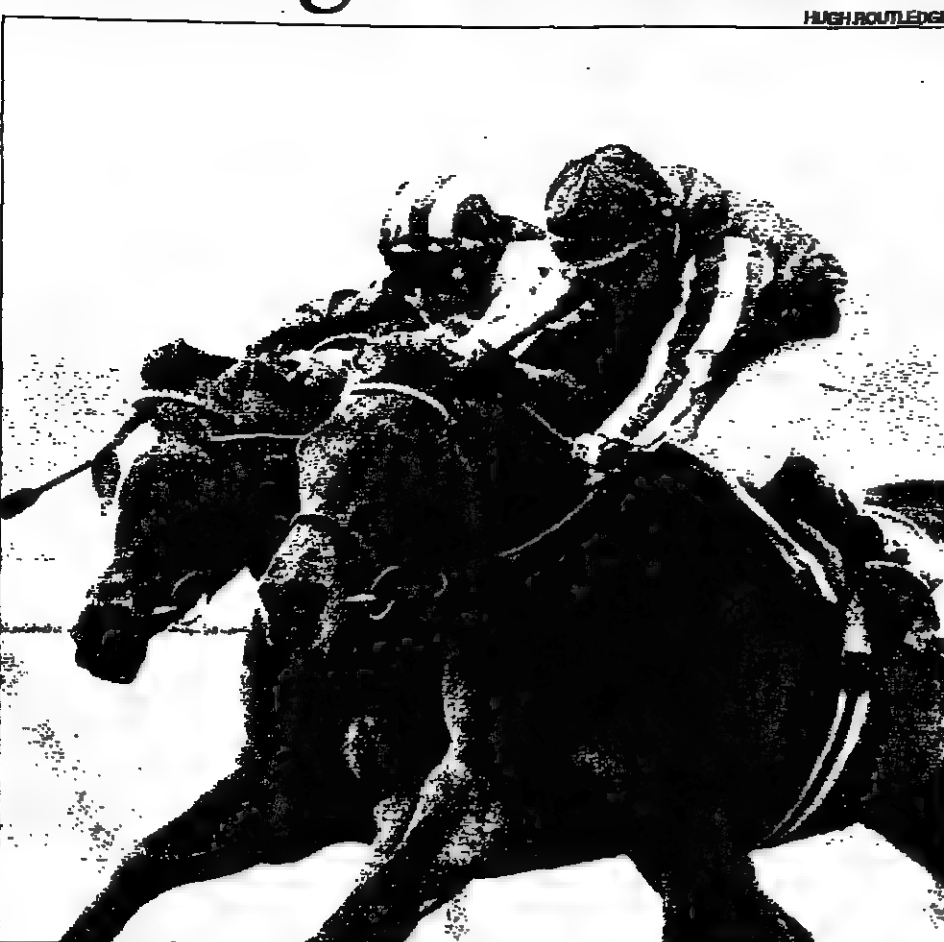
A MAP of the world will come in handy for Royal Ascot racers today as they try to assess the respective performances of horses who have been running at such far flung spots as Sha Tin, Pimlico, Kenilworth, San Siro, Cologne and the Capannelle — not to mention Longchamp, Chantilly and the Curragh.

However, the international flavour to the opening day of the royal meeting could tempt backers down a false trail as they strive to find the winners of the feature races — notably

ROYAL ASCOT

the St James's Palace Stakes, which has attracted the winners of four classics.

Daylami, who showed a sparkling burst of acceleration when winning the French 2,000 Guineas last month, is likely to be sent off favourite as the Aga Khan seeks his first major winner since returning to British racing. However, the time of the race at Longchamp was moderate and, of more concern, the Doyoun colt has a markedly rounded action which has never been tested on the likely fast ground he will encounter.



Potem, right, bolsters the home defence in the St James's Palace Stakes today

History is also against the French raider. Venture II (1960), who at 33-1 on best only one opponent, and Kingmambo (1993) are the lone French successes in this race since the war. The list of failures is almost embarrassing and includes French 2,000 Guineas winners such as Ashkanani (last year), also

owned by the Aga Khan and trained by Alain de Royer Duppé. Green Tune (1994), Blushing John (1983) and Soviet Star (1987).

Like Royer Duppé, trainer of Daylami, Aidan O'Brien has yet to train a Royal Ascot winner and, while the talented Bullydoyle trainer is sure to break his duck soon, it may

not be with Desert King, the Irish 2,000 Guineas winner. A line through Yalaiteater suggests he has the beating of Daylami, and the Dancill colt appears to relish some give underfoot — at least over this trip. Significantly, he was well behind in Command and Air Express in the Dewhurst Stakes last autumn.

Air Express is improving judged on his victories in the Italian and German Guineas, but this should develop into a battle between Potem and Starborough, who were separated by a short head when third and fourth respectively in the 2,000 Guineas at Newmarket.

Starborough is a confirmed front runner in a field where most horses prefer to come from off the pace, so Frankie Dettori can grab the rail from stall five and dictate from the front. As he showed when winning the group one Prix Jean Prat at Chantilly 16 days ago, the David Loder-trained colt is best over a round mile and I expect Dettori to quicken off the home turn.

Potem, who was foaled as late as June, has delighted Luca Cumani in the build-up to this race. His two victories have come over seven furlongs and on both starts at a mile he appeared to be coming in the end of his tether in the final 100 yards. If Potem truly stays a mile, he will be hard to beat, but I just prefer Starborough, who looks an ideal every-way bet at around 7-1.

It could be worth opposing Ali-Royal, the likely favourite in the opening Queen Anne Stakes. The Henry Cecil-trained colt is a rather neuter type who, arguably, saves his best for his local track, Newmarket.

Wixim, just beaten over nine furlongs in a group one race last time, will appreciate reverting to a mile and would benefit from rain, but Nwaamis looks a value alternative now that he has recovered from a rare disease of the nervous system, which curtailed his racing last year.

Totem Dancer can scalp rivals in stamina test

GUIDE TO TODAY'S RACES

debut when overcoming a poor draw at Doncaster and is open to considerably improvement when making a winning debut at Goodwood 11 days ago. Bold Edge did particularly well to defy a low draw when winning at Newbury and is one for the shortlist along with Chiss and Shadow Of Doubt.

4.55: Kennemara Star went into most notebooks as a surefire future winner after being repeatedly denied a clear run at York last month. John Dunlop has a good record in this race and the Kennemara gelding could be thrown in. Dunlop also saddles Redwing who stayed on

nice over seven furlongs at Newmarket back in April. Interestingly, the trainer cannot split the pair at home, but Redwing should be a more rewarding price. Over To You looks well handicapped on his record form along with Generous Libra, an eight-length winner last time.

5.30: Martin Pipe is not averse to showing his flat rivals how to train a Royal Ascot winner and Major Dundee could follow the example set by Sweet Glow, Balasani and Right Regent in this race. After showing useful form for Richard Hannon last term, he was sold to Pipe and gelded before winning three hurdle races. Indochina will find the weight and trip no problem and is fancied to reverse Kempton form with Shining Dancer. But I like the look of Totem Dancer. Les Eyre's filly stayed on well in a recent handicap at York last time and has been crying out for this trip.

RICHARD EVANS

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Nap: DESERT PRINCE (4.20 Royal Ascot)

Next best: Totem Dancer (5.30 Royal Ascot)

Musselburgh

Gong: good

2.00 (5) 1. ITS ALL RELATIVE (K. Dwyer, 200 lbs) 2.10 (4) 2. BROTHER GOLD (A. Cuthbert, 110 lbs) 3. Scatney (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 4.10 (3) 5. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 6.10 (2) 7. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 8.10 (1) 9. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 10.10 (0) 11. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 12.10 (0) 13. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 14.10 (0) 15. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 16.10 (0) 17. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 18.10 (0) 19. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 20.10 (0) 21. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 22.10 (0) 23. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 24.10 (0) 25. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 26.10 (0) 27. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 28.10 (0) 29. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 30.10 (0) 31. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 32.10 (0) 33. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 34.10 (0) 35. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 36.10 (0) 37. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 38.10 (0) 39. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 40.10 (0) 41. LADY SUE (J. F. Egan, 110 lbs) 42.10 (0) 43. 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CRICKET

Warne leads revival of Australian prospects

By SIMON WILDE

LEICESTER (final day of three): the Australians beat Leicestershire by 84 runs

NOT without some contrivance and goodwill, the Australians recorded their first win in nine matches and their first in a first-class match on tour when they dismissed Leicestershire for 179 on the stroke of 5pm at Grace Road yesterday. The county champions had been set a target of 264 to win in a minimum of 65 overs.

The last wicket to fall was that of Adrian Pierson, who was caught smartly at short leg by Justin Langer, who parried the ball before holding the rebound, to give Shane Warne his fifth wicket of the innings. Warne took five for 42 from 16 overs in conditions which did not suit him at all.

Win a pair of tickets for the Lord's Test match, page 7

With Paul Reiffel taking three more wickets and Mark Taylor scoring a half-century in the morning — albeit in relaxed circumstances — this was all morale-boosting stuff before the start of the second Test match at Lord's on Thursday. The Australians had gone through one abandonment, two draws and six defeats (four at the hands of England) since beating Northamptonshire exactly one month ago.

Their path to riches — they received £250 for winning under the terms of the Tedy's Challenge — was, however, far from smooth. With rain having intervened in the earlier stages of the game, it had taken three declarations to arrive at the run-chase and there was clearly agreement between the sides that victory would be pursued to the end.

Leicestershire never stopped playing their shots and the final hour was conducted in grim darkness and sporadic showers; a second XI game would not have proceeded in

such conditions. When rain began to fall with Leicestershire 158 for seven the umpires called for the covers, but a group of Australian players pointedly stayed on the outfield to keep loose, with Warne bowling to Slater, and play soon resumed.

Nevertheless, the Australians will regard the result as a fillip and Warne will be pleased to be back among the wickets after his travails at Edgbaston. He came on for the twentieth over of the innings, with Leicestershire on 85 for three. Reiffel had got the ball rolling by again removing Maddy with an off-cutter, but, for the first time since arriving to join the rest of the squad, he strayed from his immaculate line and length and took some punishment from Sutcliffe and Macmillan, who added 45 before both gave their wickets away to soft shots.

Warne will say he needed luck to get going again and that is precisely what he got in his second over, when Whitaker was given out leg-before to a ball that struck a front pad advanced well down the wicket. The appeal was polite rather than convincing. Whitaker had looked threatening; off the mark by hooking McGrath for six, he had also struck three crisp fours on his brisk march to 21.

Four overs later, Warne had Habib caught on the boundary, pulling, Nixon and Wells then played positively in a stand of 38 and it was not until Nixon, who was stumped shuffling carelessly out of his crease, and Ormond, who took the match award for his lively bowling on the first day, fell in the same over that the match tipped the way of the touring team. By then, batting cannot have been easy, given the light.

The last three wickets fell in four overs with Wells, whose 38 made him top scorer, blazing away to the end, caught at cover off Reiffel, whom he had just struck for two fours.



Habib sweeps the ball past Healy, the Australian wicketkeeper, as Taylor, the captain, looks on from first slip

Strang adds to Lancashire's woes

By RUPERT COX

OLD TRAFFORD (final day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Lancashire (6) by 58 runs

IT IS almost two years since Lancashire won a championship match at Old Trafford and, though the red rose continues to flourish in the one-day arena, it has remained decidedly withered and lifeless in the longer format. Yesterday, their die-hard support suffered yet more agonies after Kent sneaked home with seven balls to spare, and by 58 runs, as Martin McCague uprooted

Jamie Haynes's off stump, lifting Kent to the top of the table and leaving Lancashire without a win. Another stressful and perplexing championship summer looms for them.

Kent were worthy of their victory. Fourth last year, they are building a strong squad and played as a unit in this match. They have Dean Headley ready to return to complement McCague and in Paul Strang, their leg spinner, who took 11 wickets, they have not only a doughty cricketer but also a match-winner.

With all their resources, Dav Whatmore, the new coach of Lancashire, could

have been excused for believing he had taken on a dream job when he took charge at Old Trafford. Not so, and the enormity of his task must, by now, be dawning upon him. After tea, Lancashire re-emerged doubtless trying to pretend it was all a one-day game and, fleetingly, Neil Fairbrother and John Crawley grasped the initiative, taking their partnership to 53 in eight overs, before Fairbrother needlessly sliced Matthew Fleming to deep point. But the Lancashire batting is not getting and all too often they progress in fits and starts, with too much "glamour"

shots and not enough working the angles for singles. For example, Graham Lloyd, in the form of his career, waited to 17, only to hit Strang straight to long-off. Of course, Lancashire suffer from Test-class while injuries have added to their problems, but this is not a club that should be struggling in four-day cricket.

Having been asked to score 306 for victory in a minimum of 58 overs, the unease surfaced and the innings began in sketchy fashion. Michael Atherton, scorer of an unbeaten 90 on Sunday, edged McCague through the slips second ball and then, engulfed in a Lancashire torpor, did not score again for nine overs. Crawley shone through, but although his travails have largely dispelled his problems playing across his front pad, they are not extinct. Playing across a delivery from Ben Phillips, he was leg-before for 91 from 119 balls.

For their differing reasons, play yesterday required a positive undertone from both teams and thus Kent set off in pursuit of quick runs only to stumble to 98 for six, 186 ahead. Without Wasim Akram and Peter Martin, Lancashire lacked the incision to blast away Kent's stubborn tail, allowing an obdurate Steve Marsh, the Kent captain, to shepherd his charges to safety and ultimate victory.

Liquid lunch spoils Surrey's day

By IVO TENNANT

THE OVAL (final day of four): Surrey (11pts) drew with Yorkshire (10)

AT LUNCH, Yorkshire needed a further 201 of the 316 runs required to beat Surrey. They had six wickets intact, including that of Darren Lehmann, whose half-century was indicative of a batsman intent on more than mere survival.

Then came rain, thunder, lightning and large pools of water formed on and around the square.

There is an attractive photograph, taken by J G Dunbar,

of a huge storm brewing at the Oval towards the end of the Test match between England and Australia in 1964.

Yesterday the sky was so grey and dark all afternoon that there was no prospect of a resumption. Surrey, then, have still to win a championship match.

When Bicknell reduced Yorkshire to 34 for three, a victory looked feasible. With his second ball of the second over of the day, he knocked back Kettleborough's off stump. In the same over he had Byas leg-before offering a

half-hearted shot. Later in that spell, Moxon was caught at short leg, fending off a lifting ball.

Lehmann, though, was soon taking advantage of Surrey's reluctance to position a fielder at third man. Three of his nine fours were glided to that area and his square driving was no less impressive on this slow pitch.

There was still help for the spin bowlers and, just before lunch, Saqlain Mushtaq bowled Parker as he aimed to bisect the cover ring. Then came the rain.

Hindson has a turn of good fortune

By MICHAEL AUSTIN

THE PARKS (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 329 runs ahead of Oxford University

REHABILITATION is nigh for James Hindson, 23, the Nottinghamshire slow left-arm bowler returning to the first-class game after a year of second-team obscurity.

After taking 65 first-class wickets two years ago, Hindson gave way to the experienced Andrew Afford. Opportunity knocks again and Hindson took four for 28 yesterday.

Nottinghamshire, with a 200-run lead, declined to enforce the follow-on, keen to work Tim Robinson, their opener, back into form after a month's absence through a broken hand. He responded against Chetan Patel and James Averis, whose waywardness was an anxious preface to the Lord's match against Cambridge starting on July 2. The South African, Peter Morgan, had consoled the Dark Blues with 41.

Derbyshire unrest drives out coach

By PAT GIBSON

EDGBASTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (10pts) drew with Derbyshire (8)

AN extraordinary match that began with Dean Jones resigning from the Derbyshire captaincy because of "lack of support" from the senior players ended yesterday with those same players effectively forcing Les Stillman, the coach who accompanied Jones from Australia, out of his job.

Stillman's future will be decided today when he faces Mike Horton, the club chairman, Ian Buxton, chairman of the cricket committee, and the entire first-team squad at a meeting to consider the players' unhappiness at his failure to rebut Jones's allegations. It seems inevitable that the coach will soon be following the captain home.

Back in his office at Derby, Stillman said: "This is the first time in 27 years of coaching that I have not been with my team during a match and also the first time that I have been told not to talk to the press. But I can tell you that the

chairman and the cricket committee said that it would be better in the circumstances that exist at the moment if I was not around."

"Before this all blew up, it had been suggested that I might spend some time with the second team and watch some Minor Counties games with a view to strengthening the staff and I saw some value in the idea. You might say that I have taken up those duties a week or two early."

Apparently the players asked that Stillman should be removed from the dressing room during the Axa Life League match by Warwickshire on Sunday and yesterday they regrouped to play in this rain-shortened match with a lot more character.

Devon Malcolm seized his fourth five-wicket haul of the season, as they took the last three Warwickshire wickets for 19 to restrict the first-innings deficit to 140, and then Kim Barnett and Adrian Rollins banished their fears of being bowled out on a turning pitch with an opening stand of 113.

YESTERDAY'S SCOREBOARDS

Teddy's Challenge Series Leicestershire v Australians LEICESTER (final day of three): Australia beat Leicestershire by 84 runs AUSTRALIANS: First Innings 220 for 8 dec (R T Ponting 64, J Ormond 6 for 54). Second Innings *M A Taylor c Macmillan b Mason 57 M J Slater b Ormond 17 M E Waugh not out 16 M G Bevan c and b Mason 13 Extras (lb 3) 2 Total (8 wickets dec) 105 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-39, 2-83, 3-105. BOWLING: Ormond 8-0-36-1, Maddy 7-1-13-0, Mason 4-0-21-2, Pierson 4-0-33-4. LEICESTERSHIRE: First Innings 82 for 4 dec. Second Innings D L Maddy b Reiffel 7 J Sutcliffe c Healy b McGrath 26 G Macmillan c Slater b Julian 21 J Whitaker b Warne 21 A Habib c Ponting b Warne 34 P A Nixon c Healy b Warne 24 V J Wells c Ponting b Reiffel 38 J Ormond b Healy 13 T J Mason c Julian b Reiffel 1 A R K Pierson c Langer b Warne 0 A D Maddy not out 10 Extras (lb 1, lb 1, w 1, lb 10) 13 Total 179 FALL: 1-21, 2-86, 3-88, 4-92, 5-118, 6-155, 7-157, 8-188, 9-177. BOWLING: McGrath 14-5-40-1, Reiffel 12-3-33-2, Julian 8-1-35-1, Warne 16-4-22-5, Bevan 1-0-11-0. Umpires: D J Constant and J H Hams	
Warwickshire v Derbyshire EDGBASTON (final day of four): Warwickshire (10pts) drew with Derbyshire (8) WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings 200 (V P Clark 59, N M K Smith 4 for 37, D R Brown 4 for 33). Second Innings K J Barnett b Welch 54 A S Rollins c Brown b Welch 59 T A Leinster not out 45 J E Owen b Giles 10 C J Adams not out 30 Extras (lb 4, lb 6, w 2, lb 18) 30 Total (5 wickets dec) 229 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-113, 2-138, 3-162. BOWLING: Brown 5-2-14-0, Welch 14-2-50-2, Giles 26-12-47-1, Smith 20-10-61-0, Edmond 9-1-34-0, Hemp 5-2-13-1. WARWICKSHIRE: First Innings *N V Knight c Krikorian b DeFreitas 13 A J Miles c Krikorian b DeFreitas 80 D L Kemp c Krikorian b DeFreitas 63 D P Osler b Malcolm 33 T L Penney b b Malcolm 73 D R Brown c Owen b Malcolm 2 R J Piper c Krikorian b Malcolm 12 G Leach b b Malcolm 2 N M K Smith c Owen b Malcolm 9 A F Giles c Barnett b Harts 8 M D Edmond not out 5 Extras (lb 1, lb 1, w 1, lb 10) 22 Total (11.5 overs) 340 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-26, 2-150, 3-177, 4-218, 5-218, 6-254, 7-289, 8-326, 9-328. BOWLING: Malcolm 29-8-55-5, Harts 26-3-11-0-2, DeFreitas 31-6-89-2, Leach 15-3-33-2, Brown 5-2-13-1. Umpires: N T Plews and R Palmer	
Lancashire v Kent OLD TRAFFORD (final day of four): Kent (24pts) beat Lancashire (6) by 58 runs KENT: First Innings 373 (B J Phillips 100 not out, A P Wells 65). Second Innings D P Fulton b b Shadford 22 M J Walker c Haynes b Ridgway 26 R Ward c Shadford b Shadford 26 A P Wells c b Shadford 10 M V Fleming c Haynes b Shadford 19 M A Eastham c Haynes b Austin 10 A A Strang c Atherton b Chappell 25 *S A Marsh b b Ridgway 35 B J Phillips c Haynes b Chappell 18 B D Thompson not out 23 M J McCague not out 8 Extras (lb 10, lb 12) 22 Total (9 wickets dec) 217 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-50, 2-80, 3-80, 4-71, 5-94, 6-98, 7-154, 8-160, 9-205. BOWLING: Chappell 15-2-44-2, Austin 16-4-50-1, Shadford 12-0-67-4, Ridgway 13-1-46-2. LANCASHIRE: First Innings 285 (G D Lloyd 122, P A Strang 7 for 118). Second Innings M A Atherton c Ward b McCague 28 S P Titchard b b Phillips 61 J P Crawley b b Phillips 26 N F Fairbrother c Fulton b Fleming 22 G D Lloyd c Phillips b Strang 17 *M Williamson c sub b Strang 29 I D Austin b Strang 14 G Chappell c Fulton b McCague 21 D J Shadford c Fulton b Strang 1 J J Haynes b McCague 2 P M Ridgway not out 23 M J McCague not out 14 Extras (lb 4, lb 5, w 3, lb 2) 12 Total 247 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-12, 2-79, 3-132, 4-159, 5-203, 6-207, 7-242, 8-244, 9-245. BOWLING: McCague 15-4-61-3, Phillips 10-1-47-2, Thompson 4-0-15-0, Eastham 4-0-15-0, Strang 17-6-68-4, Fleming 6-0-31-1. Umpires: J W Holder and G Sharp	
University matches Cambridge University v Durham FENNERS (final day of three): Cambridge University drew with Durham DURHAM: First Innings 288 for 2 dec (N J Speak 124 not out, D C Spoon 103 not out). Second Innings P D Collingwood not out 8 M A Roseberry not out 2 Extras (lb 2) 30 Total (no wicket) 32 BOWLING: How 7-4-10-0, Janisch 7-2-20-0. CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY: First Innings 188 for 2 dec (E J Smith 89, Umpires: K J Lyons and B J Meyer)	
Oxford University v Nottinghamshire THE PARKS (second day of three): Nottinghamshire, with nine second-innings wickets in hand, are 329 runs ahead of Oxford University NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 324 for 4 dec (P R Pollard 115, A A Malcolm 78, G F Asher 50 not out). Second Innings M P Downman b Patel 13 R T Robinson not out 41 N A Gile not out 45 Extras (lb 24, lb 8) 32 Total (1 wicket) 129 FALL OF WICKET: 1-28 BOWLING: Asher 11-3-0-0, Patel 11-1-50-1, Gile 10-1-50-0, Byrnes 5-1-20-0, Wright 4-1-12-0. OXFORD UNIVERSITY: First Innings N G Puri c Gile b Hindson 15 B W Byrnes c Walker b Pick 2 C Wale b b Hindson 11 C G R Lightfoot b Franks 4 P G Morgan b b Pick 41 A G Fulton b b Hindson 10 I D Hudson c Gile b Hindson 12 C Patel c Robinson b Hindson 10 J M M Avers c Malcolm b Hindson 13 V A P Smith b Franks 2 C M Batterbee not out 0 Extras (lb 2, lb 10, w 2) 14 Total 184 FALL OF WICKETS: 1-2, 2-21, 3-34, 4-7, 5-47, 6-72, 7-105, 8-108, 9-124. BOWLING: Franks 13-7-11-2, Pick 14-7-59-2, Downman 7-2-1-1, Byrnes 15-6-37-1, Hindson 16-2-7-26-4. Umpires: K E Palmer and P Willey	



Russell: frustrating



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Worming your way into an eel's affections

Don Goodwin loves catching eels and eating eels, but he knows that other anglers consider eels a nuisance when they find them on the end of their line. "Hello? Hey, is this that damned eel phoning me again? Do you realise it's 3am? Don suspects that other anglers think he's a bit touched because of his passion for eels. He is right, because the sad truth is that eels are not much loved. When most people — and this does not include me — see a four-foot-long eel slithering towards them, all they want to do is run a mile, whereas I want to run two miles.

Last night's final episode of *From The River Bank* (BBC2), on eels, lived up to the glistering quality of the previous five. Geoffrey Palmer, our narrator, claimed that "you'll find eels wherever there are plenty of holes to hide in and food to eat", which makes them sound like Michael

Winner. Only some of them are actually bigger than Michael Winner. Some of them are the size of mobile homes. Many people are convinced that the Loch Ness monster is a giant eel: a frogman in the 1930s claimed he saw it. But today the only eels that a submarine could find 1,000 feet below the surface were flabby specimens which looked eerily like Les Dawson, but well short of monstrous.

Eels can live for up to 70 years, and they swim 6,000 miles across the Atlantic and back. They can smell the tiniest scrap of food in a lake 58 times the size of Loch Ness, which makes you question the existence of God: why would any omnipotent being give such a sensational talent to a long, slimy fish rather than, say, a human? Turner or Dale Winton, who could develop an entire television series around such a gift?

Don't bother getting over your squeamishness about eating eels,

because you might then want to go and catch some, and catching them requires a lot of stomach: think Hitchcock. On the bright side, the equipment needed to go eel-bobbing is cheap: on the gloomy side, it involves threading a ten-inch needle with wool and skewering it through a dozen or so live earthworms — head-to-tail — so that you end up with a very long worm-on-a-rope.

Come back from the bathroom, there's more: now loop this round a few times so that you get a series of earthworm bangles, secure them with string, attach this bait to the end of a broom handle and you're in business. Don reckons "the man who came up with the idea must have had a brain like Einstein". And something against earthworms.

"You put it in the water," said Don, like Delia Smith guiding us

REVIEW



Joe Joseph

through a recipe, "and the eel comes along, grabs the worm and gets his teeth tangled in the wool. You have time to whip him out and shake him off. Then you lower your worms in again and the same thing happens, hopefully. They're beautiful to eat."

Don Goodwin can while away days dangling for eels, staring at the scenery. "If you've been at it as many years as me, you get a

feeling for what's going on under the water. You don't have to see what's going on, you've got a feeling. It's true. You've got a feeling. I missed him. I missed that one! Well, to be fair, he never said it was the right feeling.

Don could treble his catch if he didn't squander years in bed. "Most of us," according to *Insomnia* (Channel 4), "will spend 20 years of our lives asleep." For the one in four who are insomniacs, life is such a misery that they would not only make earthworm necklaces if someone said it would bring on eight hours of sleep, they would eat them as well.

For the past 25 years, Derek Layton, a 55-year-old businessman and scientist, has been lucky to get three hours a night. In the wee small hours of the morning, he cannot sleep for thinking about his insomnia: "I have heard people say that 'the way they go to sleep is to imagine something very calm,

very pleasant, a world cruise or something like that. That is not calming because immediately my head fills in every detail of how the cabin looks, where the cabin is, where we are on the boat, where the boat is, who the other passengers are." On some nights it must be worse, when he goes all clammy after visualising that not only is he on a long cruise, but that Bob Monkhouse is the cabaret.

Insomniacs sleep like babies: that is, they lie awake for long stretches of the night, crying in anguish. This programme neatly showed how, when that horror continues into adulthood and spans years of frustration and failed cures, the effects ripple out and wash over your family, your friends, your work. Less neatly, it interviewed many of its subjects in their jim-jams, as though the director, Bernadette O'Farrell, was trying to make use of their wasted

pre-dawn hours. Or maybe she thought it would set the scene, prop-wise. Watch out if she ever does a documentary on dysentery.

In *Home Improvement* (Channel 4), Tim Allen went to sleep on the set of his DIY show-within-a-show to illustrate how soporific he found his co-producer, Al. Britain has been strangely dozy about this show, which has lost its old Friday-night berth, even though it is one of the snappiest sitcoms on television. In one scene, Tim Allen and his wife Jill (Patricia Richardson) want to know what is bothering their son, and up and bickering over who would be better at a heart-to-heart talk.

Allen: There's a very special bond between fathers and sons. Richardson: Well, there's a very special bond between mothers and sons. It's what they call the umbilical cord. Allen: Hello? ... he's nine! He's cordless.

ABC1

- 6.00am Business Breakfast (54843)
- 7.00 BBC Breakfast News (7) (67861)
- 9.00 Breakfast News Extra (562892)
- 9.20 Chequers' Challenge A plain bathroom transformed (3447104)
- 9.45 Kilroy (T) (5991291)
- 10.30 Ready, Steady, Cook (T) (42291)
- 11.00 News (T) and weather (202253)
- 11.05 The Great Escape Greek Islands (7930746)
- 11.35 Royal Ascot Preview of the first day of the meeting (4379400)
- 12.00 News (T) and weather (1529678)
- 12.05pm Call My Bluff (571982)
- 12.35 Neighbours (T) (452098)
- 1.00 News (T) and weather (17678)
- 1.30 Regional News (1565638)
- 1.40 The Weather Show (3681388)
- 1.45 Royal Ascot The royal procession, followed by the 2.30 Queen Anne Stakes, 3.05 Prince of Wales Stakes and 3.45 St James's Palace Stakes. Plus: fashions on the opening day (4114062)
- 4.00 Popcorn (1284271) 4.15 The New York Bear Show (6109185) 4.20 Julia Jekyll and Harriet Hyde (T) (537208) 4.35 Round the Twist (T) (887678) 5.00 Newsround (T) (8922291) 5.10 Act-A-Hut (T) (7259494)
- 5.35 Neighbours (T) (353727)
- 6.00 News (T) and weather (982)
- 6.30 Regional News Magazine (562)
- 7.00 Summer Holiday Featuring a two-centre holiday in Tunisia, East Nook in Scotland, and a water sports holiday in Greece. Plus a report on resort zones that mistreat their animals (T) (2962)
- 7.30 EastEnders Lorraine is forced to tell Grant a few home truths (T) (746)
- 8.00 Driving School Following learner drivers as they struggle to pass their tests (T) (1630)
- 8.30 Only Fools and Horses Del takes up cards in his latest bid to make his million (T) (2415)
- 9.00 News (T) and weather (9017)
- 9.30 The Broker's Man: Double Dutch Kevin Whately stars as an insurance investigator (235017) WALES: 9.30 Week in Week Out (50849) 10.00 The Broker's Man (552792) 10.30 The X-Files (813291) 11.35 Film 97 (433307) 12.00 Royal Ascot (8342654) 12.25 Film: Captain Apache (2973924) 1.55 Weather (8674128)
- 10.20 The X-Files: 3 Mulder investigates a blood-drinking cult (T) (640185)
- 11.05 Film 97 with Barry Norman: George Clooney Special The star of the latest in the *Batman* series, *Batman and Robin*, and the hospital drama *ER*, talks to Barry Norman about the film business, his career in television and his sex-synonym status. Last in series (T) (458301)
- 11.35 Royal Ascot Highlights (702948)
- 11.55 Captain Apache (1971) with Les Van Cleave, Carol Baker and Stuart Whitman. A native American serving with US Army intelligence seeks revenge for the murder of his commanding officer. Directed by Alexander Singer (T) (801291)
- 1.25am Weather (143321)

VideoPlus+ and the Video PlusCodes
The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCodes, which allow you to programme your video recorder to watch a programme with a VideoPlus+ handset. Tap in the Video PlusCode for the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ and Video PlusCodes are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

For more comprehensive listings of satellite and cable channels, see the Directory, published on Saturday

SKY 1

- 6.00am Morning Glory (412811) 6.30am News (729) 6.50am News (5008) 7.00am News (5008) 7.30am News (5008) 8.00am News (5008) 8.30am News (5008) 9.00am News (5008) 9.30am News (5008) 10.00am News (5008) 10.30am News (5008) 11.00am News (5008) 11.30am News (5008) 12.00am News (5008) 12.30am News (5008) 1.00am News (5008) 1.30am News (5008) 1.55am News (5008)

SKY 2

- 7.00am Superstar (471847) 7.30 Superstar (471847) 8.00 Superstar (471847) 8.30 Superstar (471847) 9.00 Superstar (471847) 9.30 Superstar (471847) 10.00 Superstar (471847) 10.30 Superstar (471847) 11.00 Superstar (471847) 11.30 Superstar (471847) 12.00 Superstar (471847) 12.30 Superstar (471847) 1.00am Superstar (471847) 1.30am Superstar (471847) 1.55am Superstar (471847)

SKY NEWS

- Worldwide news coverage, with bulletins on the hour, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

SKY MOVIES

- 1.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 2.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 3.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 4.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 5.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 6.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 7.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 8.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 9.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 10.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 11.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 12.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 1.00am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 1.30am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533) 1.55am The Wild West Show (1989) (59533)

THE MOVIE CHANNEL

- 6.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 6.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 7.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 7.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 8.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 8.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 9.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 9.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 10.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 10.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 11.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 11.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 12.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 1.00am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 1.30am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272) 1.55am Carnival in Costa Rica (1947) (87272)

BBC2

- 6.00am Open University: Pride and Prejudice (3116630) 6.25 Staves and Noble Savages (3135765) 6.50 Great The Exhibition (7136494)
- 7.15 See Hear Breakfast News (T and signing) (1845475)
- 7.30 Teenage Mutant Hero Turtles (6780388) 7.55 Blue Peter (T) (2454560) 8.25 The Record (2502746) 9.00 A Passion for Angling (T) (3401036) 9.50 Don't Be an Anorak! (2604185) 10.00 Teletubbies
- 10.30 The Beachcomber (1955) A drunken drifter falls for a missionary, with Glynnis Johns and Robert Newton. Directed by Muriel Box (9193340)
- 11.50 A-Z of Food (T) (679253) 12.00 See Hear (T) (31165) 12.30 Working Lunch (88727) 1.00 Johnson and Friends (1026161)
- 1.10 Woman of the Year (1942) b/w Comedy with Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. A reporter and a female journalist get married and attempt to find something they have in common. Directed by George Stevens (9392543)
- 3.0 News (T) and weather (3767630)
- 3.05 Westminster (T) (4635340) 3.55 News (383938)
- 4.00 Royal Ascot (8241825)
- 4.40 Take a Meal With (4380949)
- 4.55 Westminster Special: Tory Leadership Round Two (4736530)
- 6.00 Today's the Day (524)
- 6.30 They Who Dare (787456)
- 6.45 Cardiff Singer of the World Welsh tenor Gwyn Hughes Jones competes for a place in Saturday's final (257727)
- 7.30 Home Ground Investigating private paramedics (T) (388)
- 8.00 Strictly Wimbledon A look at Wimbledon's strict training camp for ballboys/girls (T) (9272)
- 8.30 Two Fat Ladies: A cake stall (T) (5307)
- 9.00 The Death Us Do Part (T) (7658)
- 9.30 Chinese Whispers: The secret diplomatic and political exchanges leading up to the handover back of Hong Kong to China (T) (741233)
- 10.10 United Kingdom Preview (316333)
- 10.20 Video Nation Hong Kong Shorts (401185)
- 10.30 Newsnight (T) (808369)
- 11.15 Trial by Jury Young murder suspect Duncan Ma points an accusing finger at his best friend (2/2) (833727)
- 11.55 Weather (496036)
- 12.00 The Midnight Hour (43944)
- 12.30am Learning Zone: O.U. Film: 1.00 A Matter of Resource 2.00 Short Circuit 4.00 Teaching and Learning with IT 4.30 Film Education 5.00 Inside Europe 5.30 Film Education

EUROSPORT

- 7.00am Speedworld (76340) 8.30 Football World (17620) 11.00am Football World (17620) 12.00am Football World (17620) 1.00am Football World (17620) 1.30am Football World (17620) 1.55am Football World (17620)

SKY MOVIES GOLD

- 6.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 6.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 7.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 7.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 8.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 8.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 9.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 9.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 10.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 10.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 11.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 11.30pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 12.00pm The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 1.00am The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 1.30am The Big Bus (1976) (2105552) 1.55am The Big Bus (1976) (2105552)

TNT

- 9.00pm Moonlight (1985) (3915127) 11.00pm Heart of Darkness (1949) (263383) 1.00am Cat on a Hot Tin Roof (1958) (2601157) 3.00am 5.00pm Moonlight (1985) (3915127)

SKY SPORTS 1

- 7.00am Sports Centre (4785) 7.30am Sports Centre (4785) 8.00am Sports Centre (4785) 8.30am Sports Centre (4785) 9.00am Sports Centre (4785) 9.30am Sports Centre (4785) 10.00am Sports Centre (4785) 10.30am Sports Centre (4785) 11.00am Sports Centre (4785) 11.30am Sports Centre (4785) 12.00am Sports Centre (4785) 1.00am Sports Centre (4785) 1.30am Sports Centre (4785) 1.55am Sports Centre (4785)

SKY SPORTS 3

- 12.00 Grand Prix Sailing (3949017) 12.30pm Beachcomber: Soccer Sevens (5644475) 1.30pm Extreme (724161) 2.00pm World's Best (724161) 2.30pm World's Best (724161) 3.00pm World's Best (724161) 3.30pm World's Best (724161) 4.00pm World's Best (724161) 4.30pm World's Best (724161) 5.00pm World's Best (724161) 5.30pm World's Best (724161) 6.00pm World's Best (724161) 6.30pm World's Best (724161) 7.00pm World's Best (724161) 7.30pm World's Best (724161) 8.00pm World's Best (724161) 8.30pm World's Best (724161) 9.00pm World's Best (724161) 9.30pm World's Best (724161) 10.00pm World's Best (724161) 10.30pm World's Best (724161) 11.00pm World's Best (724161) 11.30pm World's Best (724161) 12.00pm World's Best (724161) 1.00am World's Best (724161) 1.30am World's Best (724161) 1.55am World's Best (724161)

HTV

- 6.00am GMTV (9307307)
- 9.25 Supermarket Sweep (T) (3455123)
- 9.55 Regional News (T) (4149456)
- 10.00 The Time, the Place (63369)
- 10.30 This Morning (T) (65593036)
- 12.20pm Regional News (T) (1593253)
- 12.30 News (T) and weather (4511123)
- 12.54 HTV Crimewatchers (1983961) 1.25pm Shortland Street (4598814) 1.25pm News and Away (T) (6079185) 1.50pm News and Away (T) (6079185) 2.20pm Vanessa (2605322) 2.50pm News and Away (T) (6079185)
- 3.20 News (T) (3764920)
- 3.25 Regional News (T) (3782931)
- 3.30 Potomac Park (5581678) 3.40 Wizardora (T) (8437659) 3.50 Old Bear Stories (8426543) 4.00 Scooby Doo (T) (8484296) 4.10 The Twisted Tale of Felix the Cat (T) (759663) 4.20 Waynehead (T) (8828494) 4.45 Totally California (T) (8861630)
- 5.10 Yan Can Cook: The Best of China (T) (8496388)
- 5.40 News (T) and weather (529833)
- 5.57 Pollen Count (583758)
- 6.00 News and Away (T) (T) (363630)
- 6.25 HTV Weather (249611)
- 6.30 The West Tonight (T) (630)
- 7.00 Emmerdale The police call on the Dingles (T) (7678)
- 7.30 Take 3 Reports on issues affecting the region (814)
- 8.00 The Bill A man is reported missing by his mother but his wife, Geraldine and O'Connell suspect something else is going on (T) (308)
- 8.30 The Cook Report Roger Cook uncovers malpractice (T) (5833)
- 9.00 Class: Working Class Pop king David Sullivan shows off his Essex mansion; lottery winners Neil and Annabel Gilroy describe how they have spent their cash; and Geoff Caplan takes pride in his humble beginnings (T) (1727)
- 10.00 News (T) and weather (T) (29340)
- 10.30 Regional News (T) (71217)
- 10.35 Pollen Count (366901)
- 10.40 Hotel Fly-on-the-wall documentary taking a look at the Swallow Royal Hotel, Bristol (17308)
- 11.40 New York News Angela sympathises with an ex-convid and Rally rallies with the Chinese mafia (25332)
- 12.40am Dating the Enemy (6735586)
- 1.40 Late and Loud (2186418)
- 2.40 The Chart Show (T) (6140505)
- 3.35 FT: Canadian Grand Prix (T) (9358499)
- 4.00 The Time, the Place (T) (95960)
- 5.00 Helloom (T) (71302)
- 5.30 News (48499)

SATellite and Cable

THE DISNEY CHANNEL

- 6.00am Mouse Tracks (9724746) 6.25 Quick Attack (9703233) 6.50 Bonkers (9703233) 7.15 The Little Mermaid (9703233) 7.40 Aladdin (9703233) 8.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 8.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 9.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 9.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 10.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 10.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 11.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 11.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 12.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 1.00am The Simpsons (9703233) 1.30am The Simpsons (9703233) 1.55am The Simpsons (9703233)

UK GOLD

- 7.00am Record Breakers (471833) 7.35 Newsround (847182) 8.00 Crossroads (795494) 8.25 EastEnders (105630) 9.00 The Bill (5847123) 9.30 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 10.00 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 10.30 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 11.00 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 11.30 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 12.00 You're Only Young Twice (501072) 1.00am You're Only Young Twice (501072) 1.30am You're Only Young Twice (501072) 1.55am You're Only Young Twice (501072)

GRANADA PLUS

- 6.00am The Box (479369) 7.00am Coronation St (4810123) 7.30am Friends (489333) 8.00am Friends (489333) 8.30am Friends (489333) 9.00am Friends (489333) 9.30am Friends (489333) 10.00am Friends (489333) 10.30am Friends (489333) 11.00am Friends (489333) 11.30am Friends (489333) 12.00am Friends (489333) 1.00am Friends (489333) 1.30am Friends (489333) 1.55am Friends (489333)

FOX KIDS NETWORK

- 6.00am Three Little Pigs (551036) 6.30 Quick Attack (9703233) 6.50 Bonkers (9703233) 7.15 The Little Mermaid (9703233) 7.40 Aladdin (9703233) 8.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 8.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 9.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 9.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 10.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 10.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 11.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 11.30 The Simpsons (9703233) 12.00 The Simpsons (9703233) 1.00am The Simpsons (9703233) 1.30am The Simpsons (9703233) 1.55am The Simpsons (9703233)

CENTRAL

- As HTV West except:
- 12.55pm-1.25 A Country Practice (4598814)
- 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4598814)
- 6.25-7.00 Central News (750104)
- 7.30-8.00 24 Hours (814)
- 11.40 Highlander (263302)
- 12.40am Collins and Macdonald's Movie Club (449555)
- 1.10 Film: Up the Front (344031)
- 2.50 In Focus (3579060)
- 3.15 The Big Match Replay (8586992)
- 4.15 Central Jobfinder '97 (1001963)
- 5.20 Asian Eye (4292857)
- As HTV West except:
- 12.20pm-12.30 Illuminations (1518562)
- 12.55 Home and Away (570851)
- 1.20-1.50 Emmerdale (2306508)
- 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8496388)
- 6.00-7.00 Westcountry Live (82272)
- 7.30-8.00 Waterlines (814)
- 11.40 Highlander (263302)
- As HTV West except:
- 5.10-5.40 Home and Away (8496388)
- 6.00 Meridian Tonight (678)
- 6.30-7.00 The Antiques Trail (630)
- 7.30-8.00 Serve You Right Live (814)
- 11.40 Prisoner: Cell Block H (263302)
- 5.00am Freetext (71302)
- As HTV West except:
- 12.19pm Anglia Air Watch (1504399)
- 12.55-1.25 A Country Practice (4598814)
- 5.10-5.40 Shortland Street (4598814)
- 6.23 Anglia Weather (240340)
- 6.25-7.00 Anglia News (750104)
- 7.30-8.00 Helloom (814)
- 10.25 Anglia Air Watch (498611)
- 11.40 Charlie Grace (263302)
- Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (95543)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90801)
- 9.00 Switched (48017)
- 9.30 Yagollon (858587)
- 12.00 House to House (26253)
- 12.30pm Ridd Lake (86123)
- 1.00 Soli Melthill (10207659)
- 1.15 Pingu (1025814)
- 1.30 Film: The Small Back Room (30369)
- 3.30 Collectors' Lot (854)
- 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (563)
- 4.30 All at Sea (727)
- 5.00 5 Pump (5456)
- 5.30 Countdown (307)
- 6.00 Newyddion (940655)
- 6.05 Hero (381036)
- 6.35 Slon a Slon (256901)
- 7.00 Pabod y Cwm (491307)
- 7.25 Tu Hunt Fr Deall (497543)
- 8.00 Camr O Gan (4340)
- 8.30 Newyddion (3475)
- 9.00 Insomnia (8369)
- 10.00 Brooklyn (907982)
- 10.35 Nip/Tuck Blue (184104)
- 11.30 Northern Exposure (392456)
- 12.25am The Death of Childhood (8970586)

S4C

- Starts: 6.00am Sesame Street (95543)
- 7.00 The Big Breakfast (90801)
- 9.00 Switched (48017)
- 9.30 Yagollon (858587)
- 12.00 House to House (26253)
- 12.30pm Ridd Lake (86123)
- 1.00 Soli Melthill (10207659)
- 1.15 Pingu (1025814)
- 1.30 Film: The Small Back Room (30369)
- 3.30 Collectors' Lot (854)
- 4.00 Fifteen-to-One (563)
- 4.30 All at Sea (727)
- 5

